

# **The Weaver Report**

by

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FADE IN:

INT. HALLWAY

The camera opens on the sleepy face of a very bored, sloppily dressed boy holding a microphone. This is STEVE WEAVER. He looks to be extremely angry. Standing next to him is a man holding a broken beaker. This is MR. O'MALLEY. They stand next to each other in extremely awkward silence for several seconds.

Across from them, holding a camera, is KYLE BARNS. He looks between the two for several seconds, then speaks.

KYLE BARNS

Uh, Steve? Maybe you should ask him a question or something. This is just awkward.

The camera is now painfully close on the angry face of Steve Weaver, who simply stares off angrily into space. A flashback ensues.

INT. TV PRODUCTION - FLASHBACK

Steve Weaver sits happily in a chair with a small NEWS CREW surrounding him, including Kyle Barns who is still holding a camera. They look up at the front of the room, where MRS. FREELY has written several news stories on the white board.

MRS. FREELY

Okay, so these are all the news stories up for grabs for the reporters. First one is out of the science wing, apparently Mr. O'Malley spilled some water all over the floor of his room.

Mrs. Freely looks back at the group, and Steve Weaver laughs to himself.

STEVE WEAVER

Anything's news to O'Malley.

MRS. FREELY

Well, this one is a big one. We got a shocking report that Mrs. Milne and the Math Team were the ones responsible for locating Osama Bin Laden using triangulation.

A short video plays from the mission in Pakistan, the video is in night vision and grainy. Steve Weaver stands up, raising his hand.

STEVE WEAVER

I think I'll take that one--

He is interrupted by a pair of TRUMPETEERS that enter the room, proclaiming the entrance of DESTINY JONES, the star reporter.

TRUMPETEERS

All rise for Destiny Jones.

After the trumpet duet has concluded and Destiny Jones has brushed off the confetti from her tailored suit, she walks confidently over to Mrs. Freely.

DESTINY JONES

I'll take that breaking news story,  
Mrs. Freely. Wouldn't want it falling  
into unreliable hands.

Destiny Jones looks back at Steve Weaver, and the two exchange angry glares. Destiny then walks by and sits in a comfortable green chair with a label reading "Property of Destiny Jones."

INT. HALLWAY

We rejoin Steve Weaver and Mr. O'Malley who continue to wait in silence. Several more awkward seconds pass.

MR. O'MALLEY

Maybe I should just tell you about how  
I spilled my beaker all--

STEVE WEAVER

SHHHHH!

KYLE BARNS

Steve, we can't just wait in silence  
all day.

STEVE WEAVER

Shut up, Kyle.

The camera once again moves in on the menacing face of Steve Weaver, about to revisit his past once again.

INT. MATH WING - FLASHBACK

Steve Weaver and Kyle Barns peer around the corner of a math wing room, looking inside.

Inside the room, Destiny Jones and a dozen camera men and photographers interview MRS. MILNE, who is in military garb.

INT. TV ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Destiny Jones holds the mic in front of the dozen cameras, flash bulbs going off every second.

DESTINY JONES

Well, with Mrs. Milne's involvement in our national security, this is truly the biggest story in Walpole's history. Destiny Jones signing out. And now over to Steve Weaver with a report on some worthless beaker spill. Hahaha!

Destiny Jones, his camera crew and Mrs. Milne engage in hearty laughter. Outside, we can see Steve Weaver fuming.

INT. MATH WING - CONTINUOUS

Steve Weaver punches a locker in frustration. Kyle Barns jumps out of the way, careful to protect the camera he constantly holds.

STEVE WEAVER

Damn you Destiny Jones!

KYLE BARNES

Aw, don't let it get you down, Steve. Maybe the O'Malley story will be interesting.

The pair walk off down the hallway. Kyle tries to put his arm around Steve affectionately, but is denied.

INT. HALLWAY

Back with the Mr. O'Malley interview, things are awkward yet again. Mr. O'Malley raises the beaker in the air.

MR. O'MALLEY

Would you like to see the hole in the beaker the water broke through?

Steve Weaver looks angrily up at O'Malley.

STEVE WEAVER

Unless you spilled uranium all over the school, and we're about to go into a nuclear winter, I don't care.

MR. O'MALLEY

Well, the beaker cost 5 dollars.

STEVE WEAVER

How did I get stuck interviewing you when that scum Destiny Jones gets the story of the century?!

KYLE BARNS

Whoa there, Steve. Calm down.

STEVE WEAVER

Shut up, Kyle. This is the worst news story I ever heard. I'm not doing it anymore.

Steve Weaver tosses his microphone, and Kyle follows him on camera, leaving a disoriented Mr. O'Malley behind.

MR. O'MALLEY

So...is the interview over?

INT. TV PRODUCTION

Steve Weaver and Kyle Barns stand in front of Mrs. Freely, who hands Steve a large piece of paper with a massive red "F" on it. Steve looks insulted.

STEVE WEAVER

Was this really necessary? I knew I failed the project.

MRS. FREELY

I just want it to sink in that you're reporting the news, Steve. It's not going to be earth shattering every week.

STEVE WEAVER

But a beaker casualty? Come on! Milne got Osama!

Mrs. Freely rolls her eyes and walks away just in time for Destiny Jones to enter with her entourage.

DESTINY JONES

Weaver, you know what your problem is?  
You just don't see the value in reporting the news.

STEVE WEAVER

Destiny, you know what your problem is?...

Several seconds pass. Steve Weaver appears baffled.

DESTINY JONES

Exactly, I don't have any. And if you keep failing this class, I won't have to worry about you getting any of my breaking news stories. So keep up the mediocre work.

Destiny Jones walks off, and Freely comes back, walking right back to the now disheartened Steve Weaver.

MRS. FREELY

Listen, Steve. If you don't pull it together, I won't even consider giving you the Superintendent Worldwide Convention story next month. And that only happens every hundred years.

STEVE WEAVER

Eh, you'll just give it to Destiny Jones anyway.

MRS. FREELY

Listen, if I don't have a legitimate news story by tomorrow, you fail this term. Okay? Fail as in ZERO.

Steve shakes his head, and walks off, followed by Kyle. Kyle tries to put his arm around Steve and is once again denied.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE TV

Steve Weaver storms off down the hallway, but is intercepted by Kyle, who runs after him with a camera still in hand.

KYLE BARNS

Hey Steve, you do plan on getting a news story by tomorrow, right? This is my grade too.

STEVE WEAVER

Sorry Kyle, not everything is about you. I don't think the news has a place for Steve Weaver and his assigned camera man Kyle Barns. And zero isn't so bad. I already have one in all my other classes.

KYLE BARNES

Aw, come on Steve. Don't give up. Keep your ears open for anything that could make a good story.

Steve continues walking, thinking to himself. Once again Kyle tries to put his arm around Steve and is denied.

INT. SZYMANSKI'S ROOM

MR. SZYMANSKI walks around the room handing out tests, making a point to give Steve Weaver a massive red "F".

STEVE WEAVER

Aw, come on Szymanski!

MR. SZYMANSKI

I had to buy a new pen to correct your test, Weaver. Ran out of ink. If it weren't for you I could have invested that money with a 10% return.

Steve Weaver's head hits the desk in frustration.

INT. SZYMANSKI'S ROOM - LATER

The bell rings, and Steve Weaver awakens. The class leaves, and Steve collects his books. In the background, Mr. Szymanski and MR. WHITTENHALL talk.

MR. SZYMANSKI

That Balkus is starting to get on my last nerve. He's always using the staff restroom without signing up for it on my signup sheet.

MR. WHITTENHALL

Someone ought to teach that clown a lesson.

Steve Weaver lifts his backpack, and is about to leave the room when he listens in to the conversation for a moment longer.

MR. SZYMANSKI

I know. If only someone had the resources to ruin his career or something. That would stop him from misusing the restrooms.

In the background, a glimmer of hope comes across the eyes of Steve Weaver, who is about to exit the room.

INT. HALLWAY

Steve Weaver runs down the hallway, spotting Kyle Barns at his locker. He runs up to Kyle, who is still holding a camera.

STEVE WEAVER

Kyle! KYLE!

Kyle turns around, looking confused.

STEVE WEAVER (CONT'D)

I think I just found us a story. Follow me.

Steve takes hold of Kyle's shirt collar, dragging him along.

KYLE BARNES

Where are we going?

STEVE WEAVER

Balkus's room. Start rolling.

INT. SZYMANSKI'S ROOM - THE NEXT DAY

We enter in on first period of the next day. Mr. Szymanski is sitting at his desk piling papers as the morning news plays.

ON TV:

Destiny Jones reports from behind the Anchor Desk in the news room.

DESTINY JONES

Remarkably we just received a declassified report that with help from the Pentagon, Mrs. Milne and her mathletes used triangulation algorithms to



track down and kill the FBI's most wanted terrorist.

We see a picture of Mrs. Milne in a military uniform surrounded by her Mathletes (in fatigues) being honored at the White House.

BACK TO SCENE:

Steve Weaver barges through the doors of Mr. Szymanski's room, walking confidently over to him.

MR. SZYMANSKI

What is it, Weaver?

STEVE WEAVER

Keep an eye on the morning news, Szymanski. I put together a little extra credit project I think you'll enjoy.

Mr. Szymanski nods, looking a bit confused. Steve leaves, and we again focus on the TV in the class.

ON TV:

Destiny Jones sits behind the Anchor Desk in the news room.

DESTINY JONES

And now over to the laughable Steve Weaver with some, apparently, late breaking information.

FADE TO:

MONTAGE: THE WEAVER REPORT

-- A fancy headline reading "The Weaver Report" flashes over the TV screen. We then see Steve Weaver walking along a hallway with a microphone, looking very professional.

STEVE WEAVER

Steve Weaver here with the most shocking, terrifying, and completely true news I've ever heard of here at Walpole High. Completely blows away that lame one Destiny Jones put together. As trustworthy sources indicate, a local teacher may be in need of deportation.

-- The camera cuts to a through the window shot of MR. Balkus talking to his class.

STEVE WEAVER (V.O.)(CONT'D)  
 Early reports indicate that beloved teacher Mr. Balkus may in fact be a Russian spy. When we stopped by his class, he was spreading none other than communist propaganda.

We see Balkus write "Communism" on the board.

-- The camera cuts to the parking lot of the school, where Steve Weaver is seen pointing at a car.

STEVE WEAVER (V.O.)(CONT'D)  
 And when we inspected his car in the parking lot, we found that the oil in his gas tank was 17% likely to be from Russia, according to valid statistics.

A pie graph is shown on the screen, clearly highlighting that 17% of oil is from Russia.

-- Steve Weaver drives along in a car, pointing at it as he talks to the camera.

STEVE WEAVER (CONT'D)  
 And if that isn't enough for you, in our test drive of Balkus's car, it sounded like it may have used sprockets manufactured in Russia, which 63% of cars use.

Another pie graph is shown on screen, this one highlighting the 63%.

-- A photo of Balkus is shown on screen, which slowly fades to a photoshopped image of Balkus with a mustache and one of those USSR fur hats.

STEVE WEAVER (V.O.)(CONT'D)  
 And to make matters even more terrifying, he looks evil with a mustache.

-- Steve Weaver again walks down the hallway with a microphone.

STEVE WEAVER (CONT'D)

And could all these ties to Russia be a coincidence? I think not. Truth is, Walpole High, we have a Russian spy in our midst. And his name is Vladmir Trotsky Balkus.

END MONTAGE

FADE TO:

INT. HISTORY WING

Flash bulbs go off as FBI AGENTS walk Mr. Balkus from his room and down the hall. Mr. Szymanski stands at his door, smiling uncontrollably.

MR. SZYMANSKI

I hear the commies will let you use the restroom whenever you like, Balkus. Have fun in mother Russia.

Mr. Szymanski waves after him, but turns when someone taps him on the shoulder. He looks over to see Steve Weaver, who looks as happy as ever.

STEVE WEAVER

So how'd you like the Weaver Report this morning, Szymanski?

MR. SZYMANSKI

I absolutely loved it. You got rid of that pest Balkus once and for all. And for your hard work...

Mr. Szymanski takes a folder out of nowhere and opens it to reveal Steve Weaver's report card, which currently reads "F". He swiftly erases it and replaces it with an "A+".

Steve Weaver looks down at the page, very pleased. He then walks off down the hall happily.

INT. TV PRODUCTION

Steve Weaver and Kyle Barns enter the TV Production room, where Mrs. Freely and several PHOTOGRAPHERS wait for them.

MRS. FREELY

Steve, the Weaver Report had the highest ratings of anything this network has ever seen!

Steve pauses to let the photographers take his picture, stepping in front of Kyle so that he can be the star.

STEVE WEAVER

All in a day's work, Freely. So are you considering giving me the Superintendent Worldwide Convention story? 'Cause I don't think Destiny Jones' lame-o report did nearly as well as mine. You wouldn't want a story of that caliber falling into the wrong hands.

Before Freely can answer, Destiny Jones and her now dwindling entourage enter the room.

DESTINY JONES

You're a con artist, Weaver. I don't know how you did it, but you just got an innocent man deported.

STEVE WEAVER

Yeah, turned out pretty well, huh. Not at all like your little report. Amusing how little you've learned, Destiny. Start taking notes on the next Weaver Report. It's gonna blow your mind.

Steve Weaver leaves the room, sensing he's won this fight. He is followed once again by an increasingly worried Kyle Barns.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE TV

Steve walks confidently down the hall, but is stopped by Kyle, who looks concerned.

KYLE BARNES

Sorry Steve, but did I hear you're going to do another Weaver Report?

STEVE WEAVER

You bet I am. And feel free to come along for the ride. I'll be the talk of the town in no time.

KYLE BARNES

Look, Steve. You got lucky this time.  
It's time to quit before you're ex-  
posed.

Steve turns around to face Kyle.

STEVE WEAVER

I don't want to hear it Kyle. Stop be-  
ing such a baby. Did you see the look  
on Freely's face when I walked in that  
door? She was happy to see me. No  
teacher has ever been happy to be in my  
presence before. I must be doing some-  
thing right.

KYLE BARNS

But--

STEVE WEAVER

Shut up Kyle. The Weaver Report isn't  
going anywhere. I got more teachers to  
bribe.

Steve and Kyle walk along down the hall, Steve looking confident  
and Kyle looking horrified.

FADE TO:

MONTAGE: THE WEAVER REPORT II

-- The camera opens on a TV that flashes "Weaver Report." After  
several seconds, Weaver is shown walking down a dark hallway.

STEVE WEAVER

Steve Weaver, WHS News. Here with a  
late breaking story about a beloved  
Walpole High teacher that may be an  
alien.

-- The camera cuts to the classroom of MR. FISKE, who wears his  
trademark lab coat. Weaver walks up to him with a microphone.

STEVE WEAVER (V.O.)

Upon meeting Mr. Fiske, his clothing  
hinted that he may be new to planet  
Earth, but after a quick interview, it  
got weirder.

Mr. Fiske sees Weaver at the door, and walks over, confused.

MR. FISKE  
Can I help you two?

STEVE WEAVER  
Yeah, is Pluto a planet?

MR. FISKE  
Ha ha, no. It's too small to be a planet.

Freeze frame zoom in on Fiske smiling at Weaver's question.

STEVE WEAVER (V.O.)  
Fiske seemed familiar enough with Pluto to comment on its size. Very interesting...

-- A black screen fills the frame, with the name GARDY FISKE written in white letters.

STEVE WEAVER (V.O.)(CONT'D)  
But things got even weirder when we discovered that GARDY FISKE is an anagram for DARK FIGSEY. Sounds like an alien name to me.

The screen fades to a picture of Mr. Fiske photoshopped to have alien antennae and green skin, with "Dark Figsey" written under.

-- Cuts to Weaver walking in the parking lot up to Mr. Fiske's car.

STEVE WEAVER (V.O.)(CONT'D)  
And the fact that Fiske drives a SATURN speaks for itself.

-- Cuts to Weaver walking up to a RANDOM KID in the hallway.

STEVE WEAVER  
Do you know where Mr. Fiske came from?

RANDOM KID  
What?

Freeze frame zoom in on the confused face of the Random Kid.

STEVE WEAVER (V.O.)

Fact is, nobody seems to know where Mr. Fiske came from. And why is this? Quite simply because he is an alien.

END MONTAGE

FADE TO:

INT. HALLWAY

The camera fades in on the Science Wing hallway, as three HAZMAT MEN escort Mr. Fiske out of his room, similar to what the FBI did to Balkus.

The camera pans over to Steve Weaver standing next to Mr. O'Malley, who watches happily.

MR. O'MALLEY

Excellent work, Weaver. With Fiske out of the picture, the Science supply closet is all mine.

STEVE WEAVER

So, am I gonna get something for all my hard work?

Mr. O'Malley nods, and takes out Weaver's report card, clearly erasing the "F" and replacing it with an "A." Weaver nods happily. He walks offscreen.

Behind him, we see a Kyle Barns tearfully watching Fiske struggle with the Hazmat Men, who eventually zap him with a taser.

INT. MAIN LOBBY

Steve Weaver walks into the school, and is immediately mobbed by PAPARAZZI and a sea of flash bulbs blind him momentarily. One JOURNALIST gets to him first.

JOURNALIST

Mr. Weaver, any hints for our readers about the next Weaver Report?

STEVE WEAVER

You'll just have to wait and see.

The journalist stares back at Steve in awe as he and a more somber Kyle Barns wade through the Paparazzi and exit the main lobby.

INT. TV PRODUCTION

Mrs. Freely reads an issue of The Rebellion that has Steve Weaver on the cover. The title reads "WEAVER REPORT MAKES IT BIG."

Steve Weaver himself walks into the room, alongside the Paparazzi. Freely drops the Rebellion and walks over to him.

MRS. FREELY

Weaver! You made the front page! We had to air your Fiske report three times it was so popular!

Weaver walks by her, shooing her away. He sits down in the "Property of Destiny Jones" green chair. He tears the label off and gets comfortable.

Meanwhile, Destiny Jones enters and growls at Weaver.

DESTINY JONES

Get outta my chair, Weaver!

STEVE WEAVER

Oh, didn't see you there, Destiny Jones. I guess I need my glasses to see talentless hacks such as yourself.

DESTINY JONES

Listen, Weaver. Fiske is many things, but he's certainly not an alien. You got another innocent man in big trouble today. Something fishy is going on here Weaver and I don't like it one bit!

The Paparazzi push Destiny Jones out of the way, and take more photos of Weaver, who does a few poses in his green chair. An ASSISTANT with a waiter uniform on walks up to him holding a cocktail glass with a miniature umbrella in it. For content purposes, it has apple juice in it. She hands it to Weaver.

ASSISTANT

Your apple juice, sir. And there's someone here to see you.

The Assistant moves out of the way to reveal SUPERINTENDENT LYNCH, who takes off his top hat and walks toward Weaver.

SUPERINTENDENT LYNCH



Steve Weaver. I've heard a lot about you. I'm Superintendent Lynch. But you can call me Lincoln.

Superintendent Lynch offers a hand to Weaver, who shakes it.

STEVE WEAVER

What can I do for ya, Lincoln?

SUPERINTENDENT LYNCH

I hear you're the best reporter Walpole has to offer. That's why I want you to cover the Superintendent National Convention next week. It only happens every hundred years. Basically, it's pretty important.

STEVE WEAVER

Well, I am the best. Consider it done, Lincoln. Consider it done.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE TV

Steve Weaver walks confidently down the hallway. Kyle Barns, camera omnipresent, runs up behind him and spins him around.

KYLE BARNES

Okay, Steve. You got the Superintendent National Convention. So now can you quit the Weaver Report?

STEVE WEAVER

You need to grow up Kyle. I still got teachers I need bonus points from. Problem is I don't have time. The convention is in a week. I'll have to do the next Weaver Report live.

KYLE BARNES

A whole report LIVE?! That's the worst idea I ever heard! Think about what you're saying, Steve!

Steve Weaver turns back around and keeps walking.

STEVE WEAVER

I'm saying the Weaver Report is going to a new level.

Steve and Kyle walk off screen together. Out of the shadows, by the locker rooms, appears Destiny with a menacing face. She pulls a cell phone out of her pocket and puts it up to her ear. The screen fades to black.

INT. EMPTY ROOM

A depressed Kyle Barns sets up his camera in front of Steve Weaver, who holds several cardboard posters, looking over them.

STEVE WEAVER (CONT'D)

Okay, so in order to do this, you're gonna have to hold these posters over the camera while I talk.

Weaver holds up the first cardboard poster, which is badly photoshopped to show Mr. Cashman riding a bicycle in front of several track runners.

STEVE WEAVER (CONT'D)

First we gotta defame Cashman's marathon run by making it look like he rode a bicycle.

Weaver puts down the poster and takes up the second one. This one shows MR. IMBUSCH photoshopped onto a pirate ship.

STEVE WEAVER (CONT'D)

Then we set up Imbusch as a Somalian pirate. Make some "Arrrrrr!" noises in the background. And after you do, that's Sturges's cue to roll in here.

MR. STURGES, dressed as a skater punk, rides a skateboard through the door of the room, and catches a plastic baby Weaver throws at him.

MR. STURGES

So do you guys really think this will make me look cool? Does it look like I saved this baby? It doesn't look fake, does it? Do I look punk enough--

STEVE WEAVER

Trust me, Sturges. Everyone is going to think you're the coolest teacher ever.

MR. STURGES

Well I sure hope so. Your grade depends on it, Weaver.

Mr. Sturges exits the room, and Weaver hands the posters to Kyle, who looks increasingly depressed.

KYLE BARNES

Rolling on five, four, three...

INT. TV PRODUCTION

Mrs. Freely, Superintendent Lynch and several Papparazzi watch the TV, which after two seconds shows the news open. Destiny Jones appears on screen.

DESTINY JONES

(sarcastically)

I'm Destiny Jones, and we've just got word that Steve Weaver will be doing a live version of the Weaver Report. Over to you Steve. Don't mess up.

FADE TO:

MONTAGE: THE WEAVER REPORT III

-- Steve Weaver stand in front of the camera, calm and collected.

STEVE WEAVER

Thanks, Destiny. Steve Weaver here with The Weaver Report, live for the very first time. This is a historic moment, and how better to celebrate it than by bringing you not one, not two, but three major stories. One of which may actually happen live, and will be completely unplanned.

Kyle Barnes' hand holds the first cardboard poster over the screen, showing the badly photoshopped picture of Cashman on a bicycle riding the marathon.

STEVE WEAVER (V.O.)(CONT'D)

Since pictures speak louder than words, there is no denying that this picture shows none other than track coach Mr. Cashman riding a bicycle in his latest

marathon bid. Experts agree that this  
is against--

A slam is heard in the background, and hands appear on the  
poster, tearing it in half.

STEVE WEAVER (V.O.)(CONT'D)

What the...

-- In the TV Production room, Mrs. Freely and Superintendent  
Lynch look at the screen confused. They exchange glances.

-- Back on screen Mr. Balkus dressed in a red jumpsuit reading  
"COMMIE" appears from behind the poster. Mr. Fiske dressed in a  
straight jacket is close behind.

MR. BALKUS

There you are Weaver! Do you have any  
idea how much trouble you've caused us?

MR. FISKE

They put me in Area 51!

-- In the production room an ASSISTANT wears a headset, looking  
at the disastrous scene unfolding.

ASSISTANT

(panicking)

My god! Destiny, stand by. We have to  
dump out and cut to you. You go live in  
3 seconds.

-- Destiny Jones is behind the Anchor Desk holding a finder to  
her ear.

DESTINY JONES

(deviously)

No, keep it rolling...

-- Steve Weaver looks between the two of them, a blank look on  
his face.

STEVE WEAVER

I assure you, we would never make up a  
story.

MR. STURGES (V.O.)

Here I come...

Amid everything in shambles, Mr. Sturges rolls in on his skateboard and falls, the plastic baby flies from his hands and smashes into the camera.

Mr. Sturges is a mess on the floor.

MR. STURGES  
Did that look alright?

Weaver shakes his head and starts to sob. The camera cuts to static.

-- The camera cuts back to Destiny Jones for the rest of her report.

DESTINY JONES  
Good one. You see Walpole High, your idol, Steve Weaver, is nothing more than a liar. That's all for us here at the studio. Have a great day.

-- Superintendent Lynch shakes his head and Mrs. Freely covers her eyes.

SUPERINTENDENT LYNCH  
No way is that Weaver kid covering my convention.

Superintendent Lynch walks offscreen, and Freely looks up, distraught.

END MONTAGE

FADE TO:

INT. SZYMANSKI'S ROOM

Steve Weaver sits at his desk, moping. Mr. Szymanski comes over with a tissue box.

MR. SZYMANSKI  
There, there, Weaver.

Mr. Szymanski places the tissue box on Weaver's desk along with a new report card, now reading "F" once again.

MR. SZYMANSKI (CONT'D)

But pleasantries aside, you better start crying soon. You're probably going to prison.

Mr. Szymanski walks away, and Weaver crumples the paper in his hand, covering his eyes with shame.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE TV

Steve Weaver walks somberly toward the TV Production room, but is stopped at the door by Mrs. Freely.

MRS. FREELY

What do you think you're doing, Weaver?

STEVE WEAVER

I'm just walking into class--

MRS. FREELY

You're not welcome here. Not after that little stunt you pulled.

STEVE WEAVER

But I'm a reporter!

MRS. FREELY

Not anymore you're not.

Steve Weaver looks around cluelessly for several seconds, spotting Kyle Barns behind Mrs. Freely.

STEVE WEAVER

Hey, Kyle! Help me out here, man.

Kyle guiltily looks at Steve, then looks back at the floor.

KYLE BARNS

No can do, Steve. Sorry. I'm done.

Steve Weaver scrambles around hopelessly, looking between Kyle and Mrs. Freely. Suddenly, Destiny Jones and her entourage come from behind Weaver and interrupt.

DESTINY JONES

Barns is done with you, Weaver. He's my camera man now.

Weaver looks over at Kyle, who walks away without looking back.

## DESTINY JONES (CONT'D)

The Walpole High News is done associating themselves with con men such as yourself. There's no place here for a person who warps the truth. Get lost.

Destiny Jones and Mrs. Freely walk away, and Superintendent Lynch fills the doorway, glaring at Weaver.

## SUPERINTENDENT LYNCH

And to think I almost trusted you with the biggest superintendent convention in the world. You're a disgrace, Weaver.

Superintendent Lynch slams the door shut on a stunned Steve Weaver, who remains motionless.

## INT. STURGES' CLASSROOM

Steve Weaver looks up at the TV screen as the morning announcements play.

## ON TV:

Destiny Jones stands in front of an American flag with a microphone.

## DESTINY JONES

Attention Walpole High. This afternoon I'll be broadcasting live from the Superintendent Worldwide Convention right here in Walpole. Be sure to tune in, because it's the biggest event in Walpole since the Weaver-gate Scandal.

## BACK TO SCENE:

Steve Weaver massages his migraine as Mr. Sturges walks over to him angrily.

## MR. STURGES

Stop gazing at the television, Weaver. You'll get ideas. Your career is over. Remember that.

Mr. Sturges walks away, smiling. Weaver sinks yet again in his seat.

## INT. SUPERINTENDENT WORLDWIDE CONVENTION

A large room with multiple presentation booths is filled with several MEN IN SUITS. Around the booths stand STUDENTS, who observe and talk in the background.

In the foreground, Superintendent Lynch looks nervous. Mrs. Freely and Destiny Jones approach him.

MRS. FREELY

We're live in 20 minutes, Mr. Lynch.  
Everything alright?

SUPERINTENDENT LYNCH

I've been planning this event since I was a boy. I made damn sure nothing could possibly go wrong.

Superintendent Lynch accidentally backs into a display board, knocking it onto a SMALL CHILD, who in turn knocks over a second display board. After several seconds, it turns into dominoes, and everything is destroyed.

We are left with an image of several torn display boards, and several Men In Suits as well as several Students lying on the ground in pain.

Back in the foreground, Superintendent Lynch expressionlessly looks on. Destiny Jones clears her throat.

DESTINY JONES

Uh, so you, um, planned that right?

SUPERINTENDENT LYNCH

No! Of course I didn't plan that! What just happened?!

DESTINY JONES

Looks like a lawsuit, Mr. Lynch. It'll make a great story.

Superintendent Lynch fumes with anger, turning toward Destiny and Mrs. Freely.

SUPERINTENDENT LYNCH

Under no circumstances are you to show the destruction, chaos and potential mortality that occurred just now. As far as this news broadcast is con-



cerned, children are eating cupcakes in the background. Proceed as planned.

DESTINY JONES

But I can't lie! I'm a reporter!

SUPERINTENDENT LYNCH

I'm not asking you to lie. I'm asking you to report a story. A story that is not entirely true.

DESTINY JONES

But think of the ratings we'll get with this disaster--

SUPERINTENDENT LYNCH

That's it! If this girl isn't willing to warp the truth, we'll have to find somebody that will.

DESTINY JONES

But I'm all you got. There's nobody else.

Destiny Jones stares back at Superintendent Lynch speechlessly. Mrs. Freely breaks the silence.

MRS. FREELY

Actually, there is one other.

Superintendent Lynch and Destiny Jones turn to look at Freely, who is deep in thought.

INT. O'MALLEY'S CLASS

Steve Weaver mopes around in his seat when the phone in the class rings and Mr. O'Malley goes over to answer it. After he hangs it up, he turns toward Weaver.

MR. O'MALLEY

Weaver, you're wanted urgently at the Superintendent National Convention. Lincoln Lynch sent a helicopter for you. Get going.

INT. SUPERINTENDENT WORLDWIDE CONVENTION

Superintendent Lynch, Mrs. Freely and Destiny Jones stand around looking nervous when Steve Weaver enters the room, still looking depressed. Kyle Barns meets him at the door.

KYLE BARNS

Steve, this is your chance. We need you to do the Convention report.

STEVE WEAVER

But why? You already have Destiny Jones. I thought she was the best?

Superintendent Lynch, Mrs. Freely and Destiny Jones march over to Weaver.

SUPERINTENDENT LYNCH

It seems we have a use for your dishonest reporting after all, Weaver. Destiny Jones refuses to lie about the state of this convention. As you can see, it's a bit of a mess.

Weaver looks around at the destruction of the Convention. Several of the injured Students are now on stretchers and one has an IV.

SUPERINTENDENT LYNCH (CONT'D)

And since you seem to have a talent for creatively exaggerating the truth, I thought it best that you present this story. If you can make this convention look good, you can make the last 15 years of preparation worth it.

Steve Weaver continues to look at the ground, in a state of shock. Kyle Barns confidently looks back at the Superintendent.

KYLE BARNS

I don't think Steve's gonna have a problem.

STEVE WEAVER

I can't do this.

KYLE BARNS

What?! Of course you can. You've been doing it all along, except this time you're doing it for good...sort of.

Superintendent Lynch shoots Kyle an angry glare.

KYLE BARNS (CONT'D)

The point is, you're good at presenting your take on things, Steve. Even if that take is somewhat untrue. But anyway, this is your chance to redeem yourself.

Steve looks at each of the people in the room, thinking.

STEVE WEAVER

Give me a microphone, and get me a map of Africa. We roll in five minutes.

Kyle Barns claps his hands, turning on his camera. Destiny Jones lets out a subtle grin, and Mrs. Freely and Superintendent Lynch hi-five.

FADE TO:

MONTAGE: THE WEAVER REPORT IV

-- We are now in a classroom as the TEACHER turns on the TV, and the news intro plays.

-- On the TV reads "The Weaver Report" and after the title sequence is finished, we see Steve Weaver standing in front of the room full of injured children and broken display boards.

STEVE WEAVER

Good afternoon Walpole High. This is Steve Weaver reporting from the Superintendent Worldwide Convention. But before we start today's broadcast...

-- We are now in Mr. Balkus's class, as he watches the TV screen angrily.

STEVE WEAVER (V.O.)(CONT'D)

...I'd like to personally apologize to all of you for everything I've done over the past few weeks.

-- We are now in Mr. Fiske's class, as he watches the screen even more angrily than Mr. Balkus.

STEVE WEAVER (V.O.)(CONT'D)

I truly am sorry for lying to all of you. I hurt a lot of people in the process...

-- We are back at the Worldwide Convention, Steve continuing to talk to the camera.

STEVE WEAVER (CONT'D)

...and I promise to use my reporting for good from now on.

-- Quick cut to Superintendent Lynch watching on in anticipation. Kyle Barns gives Weaver a thumbs up.

-- Weaver walks over to the front lines of the Superintendent Worldwide Convention, where we clearly see children writhing in pain and poster boards snapped clean in half.

STEVE WEAVER (CONT'D)

I'm here at the Superintendent National Convention, where Walpole Superintendent Lincoln Lynch has put together this simulation of a school in the third world countries he hopes to rebuild.

Kyle Barns quickly holds up the map of Africa, then puts it down as Steve walks further into the chaos.

STEVE WEAVER (CONT'D)

Here we see starving children, excellent actors by the way, substandard school supplies, and general agony. But how can we stand by with all this going on? Lucky for us, Superintendents worldwide have united to fight for justice, and as this graph clearly shows...

-- Kyle Barns moves an unlabeled bar graph into view of the camera, and Steve Weaver talks over it.

STEVE WEAVER (CONT'D)

...they're making excellent progress not only at helping children around the world, but at spreading the dream of a better tomorrow.

-- Another quick cut to Superintendent Lynch, who is now smiling.

STEVE WEAVER (V.O.)(CONT'D)  
 And that's why this convention has chosen Walpole as its home this millennium. Our very own Superintendent Lynch is among the innovators of the future.

-- We are in front of a television screen showing Steve Weaver, who smiles confidently at the camera.

STEVE WEAVER (CONT'D)  
 And that's the story here from the Superintendent Worldwide Convention. Have a great day Walpole High.

The screen cuts to black.

END MONTAGE

FADE TO:

INT. SUPERINTENDENT WORLDWIDE CONVENTION

Superintendent Lynch, Mrs. Freely, Destiny Jones and Kyle Barns run over to congratulate Steve Weaver.

SUPERINTENDENT LYNCH  
 Absolutely masterful, Mr. Weaver.  
 You're the king of the ruse.

STEVE WEAVER  
 Only doing my job, Mr. Lynch.

SUPERINTENDENT LYNCH  
 Seriously. You are going places with that talent, kid.

STEVE WEAVER  
 I'm failing all of my classes.

SUPERINTENDENT LYNCH  
 Oh, don't worry about that. I'll see to it your teachers reward you for your service.

Superintendent Lynch walks away, leaving Weaver with Kyle Barns and Destiny Jones, who looks distracted.

KYLE BARNS

Looks like you misjudged Weaver after all, huh Destiny?

DESTINY JONES

Should someone call an ambulance for these injured children.

KYLE BARNS

I believe you owe someone an apology first.

Destiny Jones turns toward Weaver, and shrugs.

DESTINY JONES

Yeah, sorry Weaver. Does this mean I'm never going to work in this town again?

STEVE WEAVER

No. I'm merciful, Destiny. You can have the O'Malley beaker spill story. It's riveting.

Weaver pats Destiny on the back and walks away with Kyle Barns, this time Steve puts his arm around Kyle as they leave.

FADE OUT.