

March 2020

- Not gonna lie, nobody believed COVID was a series but it did spark some debates in AP Government, but overall no one believed it was going to affect us at all.
- Everyone just thought it was going to be like ebola, it takes place somewhere else in the world and we continue on as normal.
- **Well that was a lie.**
- Came to school Friday and learned that we were going to have a 2 week spring break and then the school would decide if we would move to online school
- **WE DID!!!**
- SO had a 2 week spring break which was nice, got to drive up to North Dakota to pick my sister up from college which gave me like 12 hours of drive time

April 2020

- Online school starts but it's more of asynchronous schooling with the far and few between google meet meetings
 - Zoom is superior
- It wasn't terrible if you didn't procrastinate and actually got things done at the beginning of the week.
- This goes on for a while
- Also this was when you really stressed about what was in your background in your google meets, but let's be honest after 2 months into the new school year you just rolled out of bed and into your zoom meeting
- Nothing else really happens in April
- Oh, we did celebrate some birthdays over zoom

May 2020

- Churches open back up again mid way through the month
- Everyone has to wear masks, but no one is used to it yet
- Cases are still rising
- There's anarchy in Seattle
- Protest have started for Black Lives Matter-most are peaceful, but there are some violent ones and of course those are the ones reported cause they cause damage
- It's just like the 1970's a hot summer full of protests and riots
- I never witnessed one I only read about them in the News

June 2020

- Not much changes
- Leave the house once a week to go to church

- Spend a lot of time with my family playing board games, watching movies- we watched a lot of war movies
- Celebrated my brothers birthday with a small amount of family
- Masks are officially required when going outside the house anywhere

July 2020

- Was able to go camping for 4th of July
- Swimming started up again
 - Only 12 swimmers allowed in the pool
 - One on each side of the lane
 - Masks must be worn until behind the block
- I signed up for the United States Naval Sea Cadet Core (basically Jr. ROTC for the Navy)
- Not a lot happened in July that affected me or my family on a bigger scale
- There was still summer protests, the election was still on everyone's mind
- On a big scale July was just like every other month.

August 2020

- Did inline boot camp for Sea Cadets
- 4 hours on zoom 5 days a week for 2 weeks
- It sucked and was mentally exhausting, but got me ready for school zoom
- On August 27th, 2020 we started zoom school
- You logged on to each of your classes everyday, but asynchronous Wednesday
- It took a while, but more and more kids got comfortable with being on camera and with asking questions in class
- It was far from ideal and it was mentally exhausting to sit online all day and then have to do homework online as well

September 2020

- September was just a repeat of the end of August
- You woke up, did online classes, did homework and that was it
- I was lucky because I could swim
 - The practice schedule changed every so often to be able to fit in more practice and more people
- Swimming let me see people in person, to clear my mind, be active, and to get out of the house
- Swimming was my safe haven, it kept me sane, but not every person during the pandemic had this opportunity

October 2020,

- A month like the one before
- Swim Practice schedule changed once again, but we had our annual glow practice which was fun
- I finished in person Recruit training for Sea Cadets, that felt super relieving

- School was just the same as before, but there were debates if we were going to go back in person, hybrid, or stay online
- Many parents were split between the two sides
- The debate of putting students back in person was going on all around the country and continued through even May 2021

November 2020

- We attempted to go hybrid with school
- But 2 students had covid at orientation and so we went back to all online
- I had a supposed exposure to a student with covid and had to quarantine for 2 weeks
- The 2 weeks went by fast, they were not much different from before I just couldn't go to swimming
- The election occurred and it just happened
- People were very stressed from both sides with how the election would go
- Plus with covid more states had to adopt absentee ballots which cause a whole new mess

December 2020

- High school swimming started
- The election wasn't smoothing over
- Tensions in the country continued to rise

January 2021

- The capital was stomped
- I didn't know how to react
- Im 16, this was too much to process and we left it at that

February 2021

- I got quarantined for another 2 weeks and missed high school league which would have been so much fun
- It sucked but it happened to everyone at some point

March 2021

- We went back to full in person for all four days, but students could still be online
- This was so nice
- To be with friends again was so nice, to be in class with them made class so much better
- My younger sister and father got covid
- They were both fine, but I got a slight cold and missed so many things because everyone had to assume I had covid even though my test was negative

April 2021

- It has now been over a year since the start of Covid and it's become normal
- Everything feels normal now
- Also I learned that I love driving and driving is the best

- Unless you are behind a slow person then the struggle is real

May 2021

- I had to take the SAT on my own because I missed it in April at school
 - I had my parents pay for it
- I also got a job lifeguarding
- Went through training
- It went well
- The country had calmed down some
- Tensions are still high, but some things are subsiding

This is where the journal ends. I did this for my APUSH class as a final. It was harder to look back than I thought. Looking back everything went by faster than I thought. I don't have super memorable things about Covid. My favorite memories from this time come from the experiences I gained from swimming, school, friends, and sea cadets. My family was lucky, we didn't have many losses, but some of our friends lost their families. Looking back Covid was a time to learn, to find new outlets, and gain new experiences and get out of our comfort zone. In a larger picture tensions were high and politics crazy, but you might learn about that from your teacher. Thanks for reading!!