

At the very beginning of the Corona virus pandemic in March 2020, life was very confusing. People were being told to wear masks when they go outside, to social distance from people you were not living with, and to wash our hands constantly, but we didn't really know how bad the virus was. At this point, schools were closed for a few days to sanitize and clean as a precaution. Those few days turned into a week, then two weeks, then a month, and then the whole country went into lockdown and school was closed for the rest of the school year. As a senior in high school this was very hard news to handle. All of our classes were moved to online, our graduation was cancelled, we could not spend the last few months of school with out classmates before heading off to college, and we could not say goodbye to any of our teachers. High school felt unfinished. When the time came to make a decision about where I was going to go to school in the fall, I was very conflicted. I had not had the chance to go to any accepted students days and get a final look at all of my options. I ended up watching youtube videos and finding virtual tours of some of the schools I was considering. Ultimately, I made a pro-con list between the last two schools and made my decision. That summer was probably one of the strangest summers I have ever had. I usually travel a lot during the summer, but this year I didn't go anywhere and felt trapped. My family and I fell into an everyday routine of working out in the mornings, having a family breakfast, and then going off to our rooms and doing our own thing until dinner time where we either played games, watched movies, or had big extended family zoom calls. The days started to blend together and I had to come up with interesting things to do inside my house like baking different foods, growing an avocado plant, and even teaching my self how to play the ukulele. In the fall, I was able to go to school and

participate in some activities and have a mix of online and in person classes because of the safety precautions that were set.