

### Journal Entries

3/12/20        It's the last week before spring break and all I hear over the news, in school, and in public, there is panic and worry about a new viral disease called Covid-19. I have been hearing about this since the new year and didn't think it would make such an impact in my life. I hear murmur through the teachers about not coming back to school after break or even not finishing this last week. I am oblivious about what will happen in the next weeks, months and even years ahead of me. And then all of a sudden my highschool gets shut down on the very last day before break. I'm all excited to have that Friday off leaving Thursday the last day of classes.

3/22/20        Spring break got extended another full week because of the drastic rise in Covid-19 cases around the country. To me, all I think about is another week of spring break which brings me a lot of joy. But later in the week I start getting tons of emails from the school about how we will be back in person for now, but that may change in the next few weeks. Going back to school that next Monday was a little awkward, and tensions were high around the school about going virtual for safety reasons, which is something I have never experienced before.

4/3/20        Today was the last day of in-person classes, and after this weekend we will be fully online. Throughout this past week we have been learning about different ways to do online school through apps like zoom, google meets, and just other online platforms. I am also part of the school's musical, The 25th Annual Putnam County Bee, and I play the mallet parts and auxiliary percussion in the pit. Out of the 5 shows we were supposed to play, we only got to do 3 of them before shutting completely down. I'm really upset because after months of rehearsals and practice, we are not able to even perform all of our shows. And to ruin the night even more, we were informed that our music department trip to Orlando, Florida also got canceled because Disney shut down. At this moment, I realize that the pandemic is something that may affect me and those around me in a huge way.

4/6/20        It's the first day of online classes and I stay in bed all day, as there is no reason to really leave my room in general unless it's to get food or go to the bathroom. As this first week passes by, school gets easier as teachers assign less work and I can do the work whenever I feel. By the middle of the week I get even more disappointing news. My junior year soccer season is canceled. I am absolutely devastated as I don't get to play my favorite sport and will never play soccer with my senior teammates ever again.

4/13/20        As the second week of online school continues, I spend most of my days doing my work on the back porch while I can also play with my cats all day. One of the positive things about this is that I can get all my work done before noon if I don't get

distracted, then I get like half the day off every day. This week I have also been informed that the AP tests are being moved online and are being drastically shortened. This information is interesting to accept because it now would be a lot easier to fail the exams as there are now about 10 questions on the exams. With so much free time on my hands I start to become really bored day after day. And one of the days when I was feeling a little extra bored I decided that it is a good idea to pierce my ears in my basement bathroom. Taking about thirty minutes, they in fact turned out surprisingly well.

4/27/20        A few weeks later as the online school situation has become the new normal. I could tell things have changed in the community as a whole as well. Gas prices have dropped to about a dollar a gallon and my restaurant job has completely closed down. I am told that we may open back up but just for online ordering, but the hours would not be as great. Coming to a realization that things even this upcoming summer and the next school year will be different than usual.