

The Paw Print

Wilsonville High School

6800 SW Wilsonville Rd.

Wilsonville, Oregon 97070

West Linn-Wilsonville School District uses the comprehensive distance learning format

By Halle Isaak
Editor-in-Chief

Ever since the coronavirus pandemic came in and surprised the nation in March, everything has been changed to fit our new way of living; one of these major changes is the way we attend school.

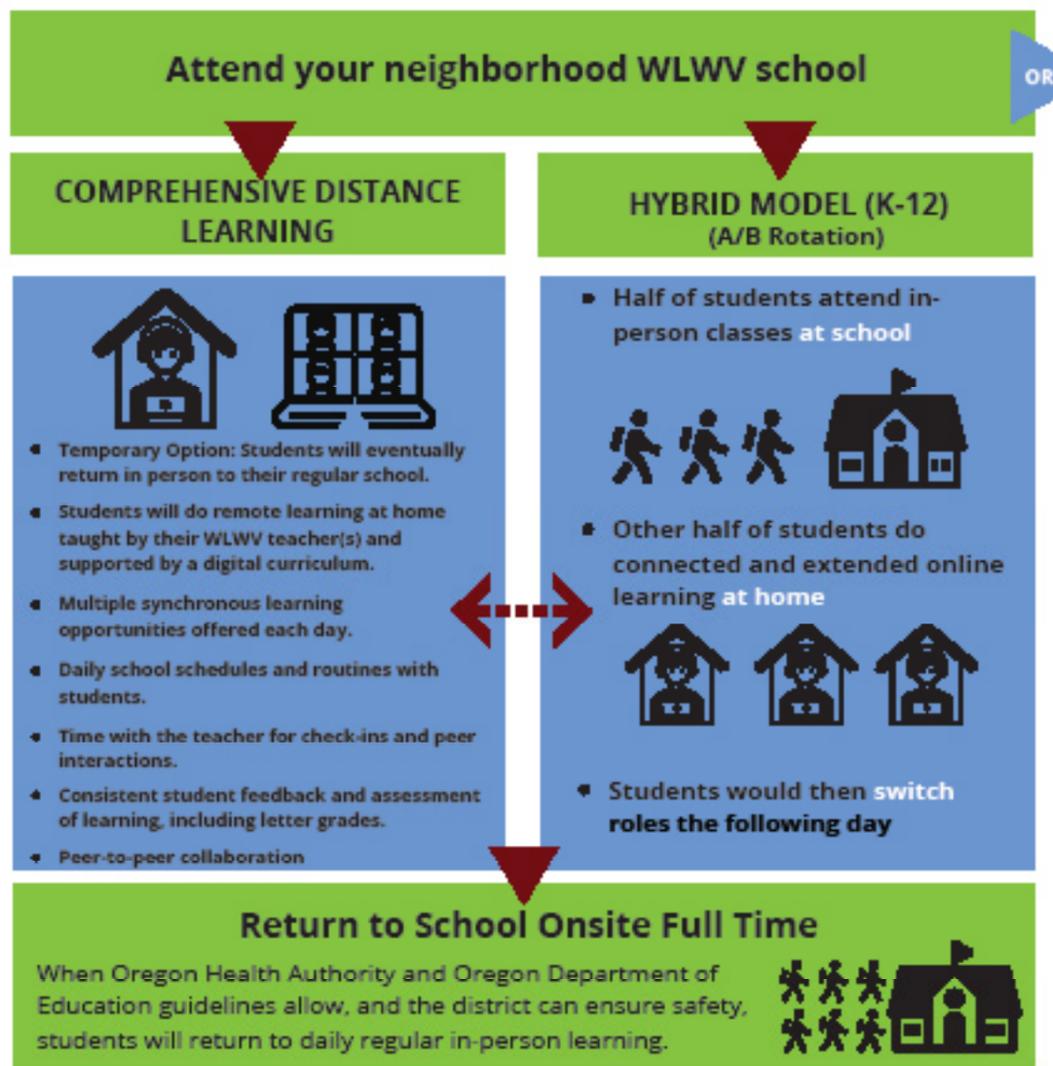
Last spring, the school district moved to a pass/fail system and continued with schooling over Google Classroom where teachers would assign work every Monday for students to work on.

But when the school year finished and the pandemic had no end in sight, the district came together to create a new way of schooling starting in the fall of 2020: comprehensive distance learning or CDL.

Comprehensive distance learning is the current format that the West Linn-Wilsonville Schools are taking part of, meaning all of students' classes are online via the video conferencing software Zoom.

Zoom has quickly become the new norm for all students in the district as every week day morning, students roll out of bed, turn on their computer, and attend class.

Another major change is that the 2020-2021 school year has been shifted into a quarter system instead of the usual semester schedule. This means that students will take three of their classes for a nine week quarter, then switch to their other three classes the



The WLWV School District return-to-school infographic. The infographic shows the two model options for how schools may reopen; schools are currently using the comprehensive distance learning option. Photo provided by WLWV School District.

second nine week quarter. classes as the second quarter.

By the time the third quarter rolls around, students will begin taking the same three classes as the first quarter; in the fourth quarter, students will take the same three

Freshman year is already a big change as it's your first year in a completely new setting.

Grace Kelso, a freshman at Wilsonville, shares that she honestly doesn't mind the

format too much, but wishes she was able to go to school to see people and show off some of her favorite outfits.

To her, the most disappointing part of the situation is "missing out on my first homecoming and other school dances."

For seniors, this was the year that they have been looking forward to throughout all their twelve years of schooling. Between going to the final football games, the last school dances, and last opportunities to be with your class before college, the final year together was something that seniors were very excited about.

In regards to students that are taking advanced placement classes, this year being fully online and on a quarter system really changes the way these classes look.

Senior Michael Culp isn't a fan of the system, mainly because of how his AP classes fall, but also acknowledges its benefits. "I think while this format is difficult due to the lack of socialization it is also easier to focus on the work, making it easier to do well and learn," Culp shares.

As the situation regarding the pandemic has continued to show that being online is the safest option for schooling, students and teachers are continuing to adapt to this new lifestyle.

It's not the way anybody was hoping this year to go, but everybody is continuing to make the best of it!

Find out what the 4A's are up to in the current circumstances

Academics

Online learning has been a huge adjustment for everyone, and there are many struggles to the new normal. Check out pages 8 and 9 for tips regarding comprehensive distance learning and how AP classes are being run this year.

Athletics

School sports are back to practice! Make sure to stay up to date on season one activities, and how club sports are occurring. Wondering what seniors are signing this year? Read about it on pages 6 and 7!

Arts

The theatre department is putting on a production of the play "Trap"! Choir, band, orchestra, and visual arts are all practicing from home. Learn how performing and visual arts are staying creative at a distance on pages 10 and 11.

Activities

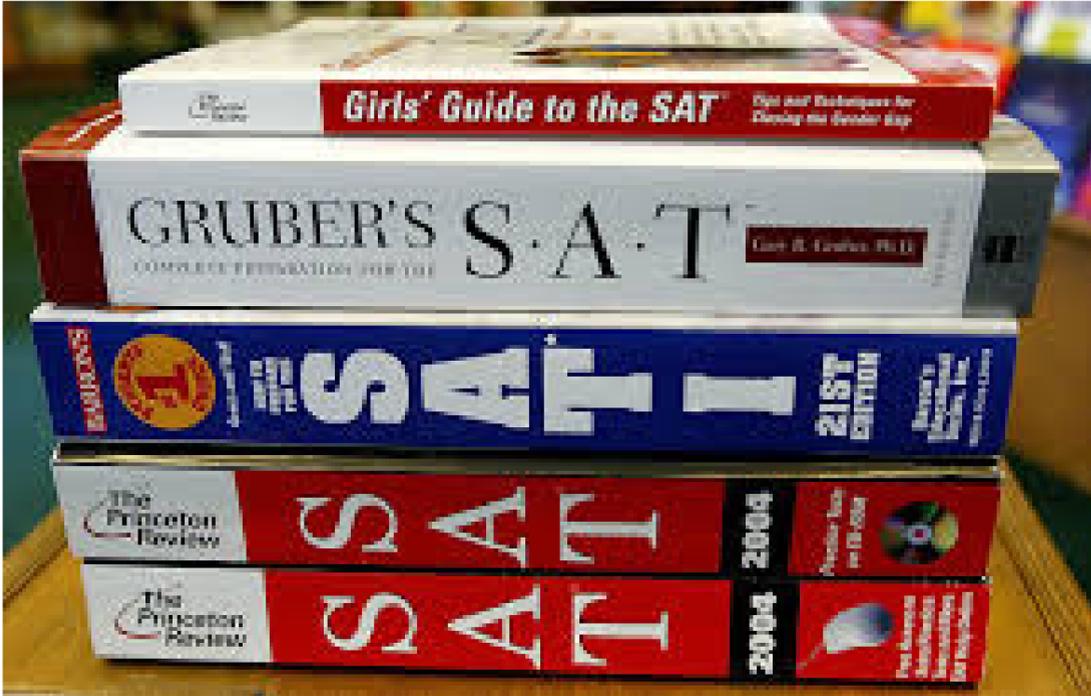
The activities section explores the unique adjustments students have faced in their jobs over the past year. Also, be more aware of mental health and the clubs at Wilsonville High School. Check out pages 4 and 5 and read about what life is like without dances.

Read more about the 4A's throughout the newspaper and online at wilsonvillebroadcastnetwork.com



OPINIONS

It's time to eradicate the SAT



A pile of SAT prep books. Many students use a variety of outside sources to study for the test. Photo by Justin Sullivan (Getty Images).

By Peyton Tolboe
Staff Writer

For countless years the SAT has been a dread for juniors across the United States. Who actually looks forward to a multi hour test

that typically ends up with results you didn't want? No one. Colleges have argued for years that standardized tests are crucial to their admissions process; however, COVID-19 is battling their statements. The SAT has been can-

celled for many schools since March. Current seniors across the country have felt the growing stress as their college deadlines creep closer, and they still don't have their test scores. Some students from Wilsonville have been able to travel

to other states to take their SAT, but what lengths should students have to go to take a test required by nearly all major universities?

Maddy DuQuette, a senior at Wilsonville High School, was able to take her SAT across state lines; however, she doesn't feel like the test is beneficial for the majority of current seniors.

DuQuette stated, "I don't think that there are a ton of benefits this year unless you've been studying a lot and can get a really phenomenal score."

With the majority of universities across the United States going test-optional, she agrees that the SAT does not seem like a necessity in the application process.

In terms of the SAT in general, DuQuette feels as though it is beneficial for those who take the time to study. She mentioned, "... all my SAT and ACT prep has made me a much better student."

DuQuette has improved her multiple-choice test skills through all her standardized test prep, but the majority of students do not spend as much time analyzing the passages and problems as she has.

Briggs Moore, a senior at Wilsonville High School, was

frustrated when all of his standardized tests got cancelled over the past couple of months.

"The SAT doesn't seem like a very accurate determination of who's a good student," Moore explained, "a lot of top colleges have shown us that by going test optional."

Universities changing to test-optional policies has brought a lot of relief to the class of 2021.

Students, such as Moore, feel as though colleges are now looking more at the merit and effort of individuals rather than just their test scores.

The switch to test-optional college applications should continue to be implemented even after the class of 2021 applies, and the colleges should take it one step further.

Going test-blind is what the admissions process should move towards.

Test-optional still puts pressure on a lot of students, like DuQuette, who want to stand out to competitive universities.

By still accepting test scores, students in less rural areas are put at a disadvantage when they can't get the same testing opportunities as other students across the country.

COVID: the unseen opportunity

By Bryan Rector
Director of Sports

The health crisis that has wreaked havoc upon our goals, dreams and plans has undoubtedly perpetuated more harm than good. It has taken away the end of last year and beginning of this new year from us: our activities, our education, our social skills, and most importantly... our motivation and momentum we seemingly could have carried deep into the 2020 calendar year.

But... chalk it up to this year right. At this point, the nature of this year can be compared to a flashing scoreboard that may read Two Thousand and Twenty: 212 - Humanity: 0. It has been said many times that this year, albeit unforgettable, is one that is unlike any other for reasons that simply do not have to be explained.

But here's the deal. As we round the corner into the New Year (kind of... yes we have 1+ month remaining) let us take a moment to celebrate the good things that have happened this year and under these new "COVID rules" as it were.

Bella Glastra Van Loon is a senior who keeps things simple during onlineschool. She has been "sleeping in, making tea in between classes, pajamas all day..." Her thoughts reveal the

idea that online school is laid back and relaxed which parallels a typical senior year for most.

Briggs Moore is a senior this year who has been fortunate enough to partake in many things such as work, backpacking/ fishing trips and more family time than he is accustomed to.

He likes to keep things in perspective during a time like this and cut to the chase during a WBN exclusive interview. "It has allowed me to go places and do school when I otherwise would have had to wait for a holiday."

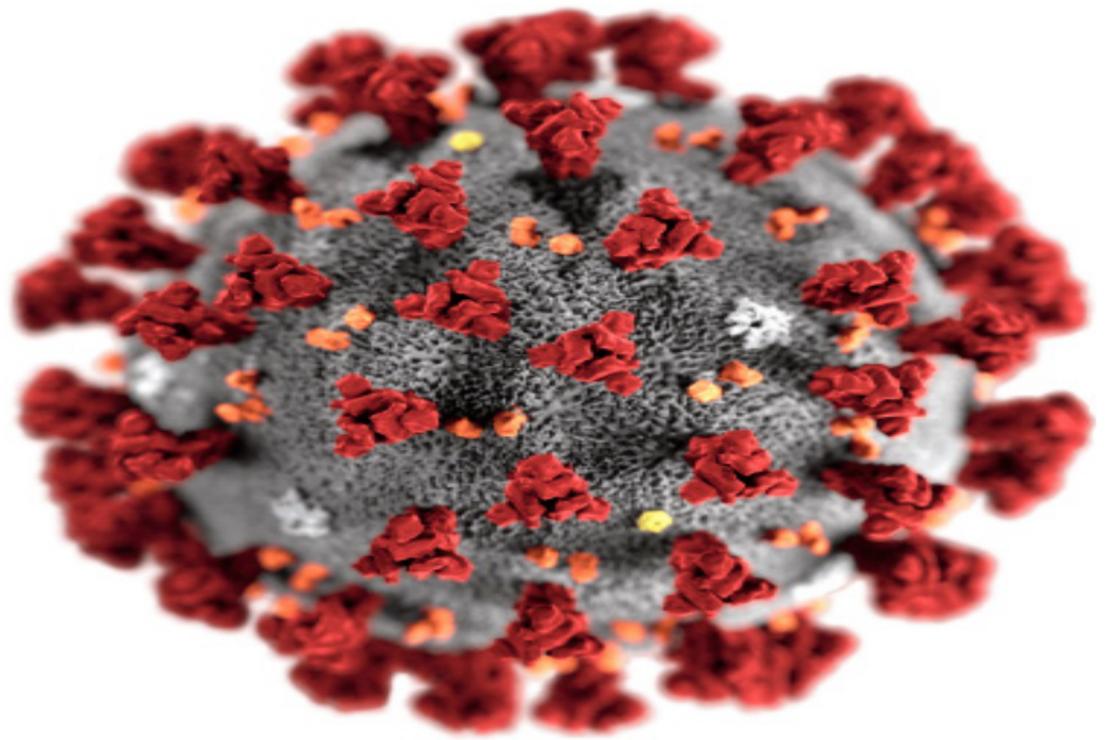
Moore continues, "Online school presents better opportunities for students and their families to travel. We also have more time not at school during the day so we can work on other things."

Ryan Soderlund is a sophomore who plays baseball and basketball for the high school.

He is a man who works consistently to perfect his crafts. You can find him in the gym, on the field, and on the court most all the time.

So what does a driven person like him do when the world is in tatters? He says, "I have taken up fishing with my dad and me and my buddies like to hit the course to play some golf now."

For Soderlund, it has



Online school: an opportunity that nobody saw coming. Photo courtesy of the CDC.

been a laid back lifestyle that has promoted growth in the other areas of life including school and his sports for which he competes so aggressively.

Justin Slothower is a senior who plays football, a cause for which he strives to be the pinnacle.

With football and school on hold though... what might he do? Well the answer may surprise some of you. Slothower has picked up a gui-

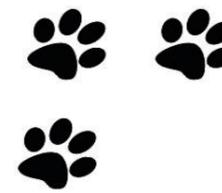
tar in the recent months and has begun to learn some tunes.

He is attempting to model his work after the late, great Eddie Van Halen, John Mayer and a few other stars.

It will not be an easy road for him, but the idea of online school has given him a stressor which he has identified and hopes to curtail by strumming some strings.

"Online school presents better opportunities for students and their families to travel."

- Briggs Moore



Students should not be required to turn on their Zoom cameras

By Editorial Staff

With attending school in the comprehensive distance learning format, students and teachers have had to get accustomed to our new way of learning: Zoom.

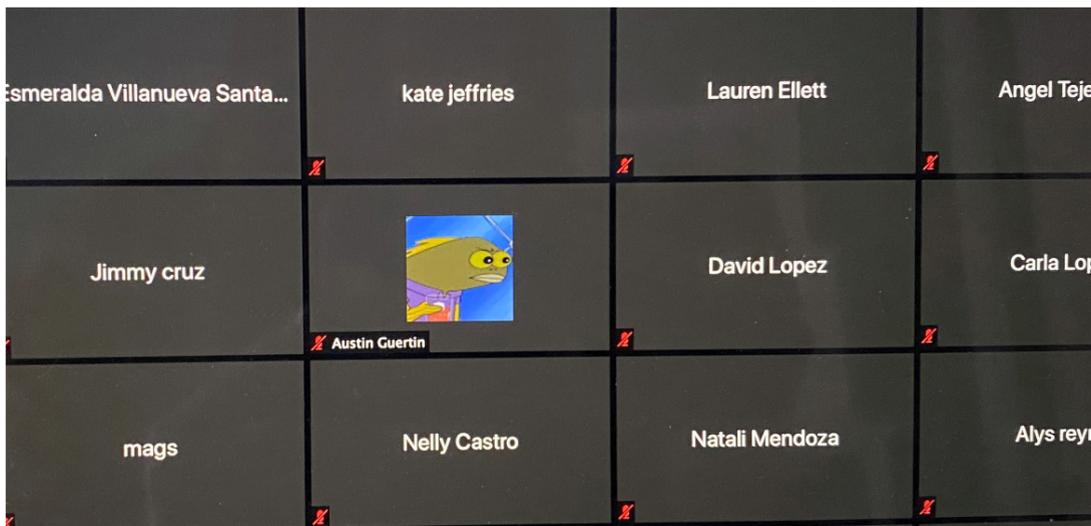
Meeting every day over a computer screen has majorly changed the way teachers and students are able to interact with each other.

It's safe to say that most teachers would still like to see their students' faces; to do so, students would have to turn their cameras on, so everybody could see them.

However, in a lot of classes, students tend to not show themselves and keep their cameras off for the majority of their class.

Due to the lack of people that turn their cameras on for class each day, people have questioned, should they require students to turn their cameras on?

Honestly, nobody should require cameras on. Having to learn from home is already tough enough, and for some students, keeping their cameras off is the



AP Spanish students with their cameras off while working on an individual activity. Photo provided by Halle Isaak.

only way they feel comfortable attending school from their home.

Each student is in a different situation and has different comfort levels showing themselves and their surroundings.

With all the stress and discomfort that we are fac-

ing right now, forcing a student who doesn't want to show themselves will only make their comfort levels decrease.

Having to worry about your camera being on can be a major distraction not only for you, but for other

people in the class as well.

Students have stated that it's nice to not have their cameras on as it makes them more comfortable by not stressing about what they look like or that everyone is looking at them. Even though cam-

eras shouldn't be required to be on, that doesn't mean students shouldn't participate.

In order to make the best of the situation that we are in, students still need to participate just as much as they normally would in person. By unmuting to answer a question or even using the chat that Zoom offers would help the problem of participation.

Simply participating like this would allow your teacher to know that you are there and are paying attention, which admittedly, is difficult to know when nobody is showing their face.

But if the participation is there, there's no need for teachers to worry about what you are doing behind the black screen.

So no, students should not be required to turn their cameras on so they can remain as comfortable as possible during such an already unusual situation, as long as they remember that they still need to participate.

The equity of online learning

By Ainsley Mayes
Guest Writer

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to restrict students to online learning formats, the question of online learning equity becomes more prevalent.

2020 has led many students to face unprecedented changes to their schools as we continue to adapt in the wake of a pandemic, but as we near the nine month mark of state-wide shelter in place orders the equity of online learning for every student is a subject of concern that continues to grow.

One of the hallmarks of the United States public schooling system is the commitment to providing equal education opportunities for all students.

Traditionally, this commitment was upheld during in person learning; learning on school

campus provides students with equal access to materials and opportunity for students to be able to focus undivided attention on learning while they are in class.

However, it has proven difficult to provide all students with the same education accessibility from home.

Issues regarding internet access, home life, access to school provided meals, have surfaced to the forefront of the discussion surrounding the equity of online learning in recent months.

In the Portland area public schools, issues regarding equity in marginalized communities are working to be addressed in the wake of the pandemic.

Addressing issues regarding computer and WiFi access, as well as access to quiet spaces have been the focus of public schools as



The front of Wilsonville High School. Photo provided by WLWV School District.

they continue to adapt during these unprecedented times.

Looking at the adaptations our own Wilsonville High School has made with their meal distribution services, and district wide distribution of chrome books to students without access to their own computers,

we remain hopeful that we will continue to adapt and persist through the great changes this school year has faced.

Taking a closer look at the way students describe themselves handling the change, many feel that the transition was smooth.

Aside from feeling

that the transition has gone as smoothly as possible given the circumstances, a common trend students have been reporting is difficulty staying focused and motivated while learning over a computer screen.

"When I'm at home I don't have a designated time to do my work, and it's all self motivated and self run," junior, Jillian Dauth said.

While the adaptations that schools have made to continue to educate throughout the pandemic have continued to improve over the months, modification to school curriculums and learning formats have us all hoping for a return to in person education.

Nevertheless we wildcats will continue to ride this out and stay safe so we may all return to normalcy and the school we know and love as soon as possible.

The Paw Print Mission Statement

The Paw Print is a student newspaper dedicated to producing accurate, interesting, quality news. We believe an informed school has major advantages in many forms of education. We are committed to practicing sound journalism and delivering the opinions and ideas of the students in a free and open environment.

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STUDENT LIFE

Students find unique job opportunities amid pandemic

By Maddy Duquette
Staff Writer

For generations, many high school students have filled their time with after school jobs, gaining valuable life experience and a little extra cash to spend.

However, like everything else this year, the COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way students get jobs.

Whether they had been planning on working but now do not feel safe doing so, or have been lured by the need for positions at locations like Fred Meyer or Red Robin, the workings of teen employment are undoubtedly different in 2020.

Fortunately, senior Sara Stewart has been able to make the most of both her summer and fall job opportunities.

Stewart describes that beginning in May she worked at a veterinary clinic as a technician where she ran bloodwork, took vitals, and administered vaccines, along with many other tasks before bringing cases to the veterinarian.

In regard to the pandemic, she notes that, "Navigating with the pandemic was hard because we couldn't and still can't



Senior Sara Stewart working her summer job as a veterinary technician. Many WVHS students have found unique opportunities to work in the pandemic. Photo by Sara Stewart.

allow owners in the clinic."

Due to restrictions from the pandemic, Stewart's job as a veterinary technician was much more complicated, but she adds that being able to find that unique job was great, since not everyone was able to work at all.

However, the veterinary technician hours did not lend themselves to a school day, prompting Stewart to get her current job at Homegoods

where she helps customers, stocks shelves, and cleans.

She describes that this job is even more challenging amid the pandemic because "we have to count how many people are in the store and once we hit occupancy we have to make a line outside which happens at least every Saturday for hours at a time and it makes customers angry."

Stewart concludes that "working during the

pandemic is pretty stressful as I went from seeing no one to interacting with a ton of strangers daily, some who wouldn't wear a mask."

Impatient customers are likely an inexperienced teen's worst nightmare on a regular day and this is only exacerbated by the current conditions.

Another WHS student, junior Jenna Weiss, has also taken advantage of

unique job opportunities, as she describes her job as a nanny where she provides after school care for three kids.

Once again, the pandemic has brought new complexities to a seemingly simple job; Weiss relates that, "It was challenging to find a job during the pandemic because not many people were hiring."

Additionally, Weiss faces extra tasks to abide by safety precautions, saying, "I have to clean out the entire place every day and make sure they are using hand sanitizer all the time, after taking their temperature upon arrival."

Still, Weiss is able to work every day after school from three to six, making her current work mesh well with school and affording a special experience for a high school student.

WHS students have always been creative, so it should be no surprise that students are constantly making the most of their school year with unique jobs, even in the middle of a pandemic.

These distinctive experiences will undeniably offer great experiences and special memories amid a time so unusual.

The InterAct Club is making an impact

By Halle Isaak
Editor-in-Chief

Wilsonville High School is home to many different clubs that students can participate in; one of these clubs is the InterAct Club, also known as the Rotary.

The InterAct Club works with the non-profit organization Rotary International, whose mission is to "provide

service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through our fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders."

At Wilsonville, the club is run by one of WHS' art teachers, Angenette Escobar, and two other adults from the Rotary: Jake McMichael and Laura LaJoi.

The purpose of Wilson-

ville's InterAct club is to help unite the community on not only a local level, but also on a national and international level.

Senior Jadyn Sherry has become the Secretary of the InterAct Club this year.

She shares that as the secretary, she gets to keep track of all of the meetings and what is talked about.

Being Secretary happens to be Sherry's favorite part of the club because "it helps practice my organizational skills and help push the agenda of the club."

With the club only beginning last year and COVID-19 cutting the school year short, the club was unable to do as much as they hoped.

However, prior to the pandemic, they were able to organize the first continental breakfast at Meridian Creek Middle School as well as the annual rotary dinner.

More recently, the club helped the community during the wildfire crisis that occurred only a few months ago.

In order to help with evacuees and those facing

hardships because of the wildfires that took over the community, the club put together a bake sale where the proceeds went to a wildfire relief fund.

For senior Ellie Counts, the bake sale has been one of her favorite activities that the club has put together.

Since the end of the wildfires, the InterAct Club is now working on new projects to help serve the local and national community: a peace poll on Wilsonville High School's campus and boosting enrollment to an "Imagination Library" put together by Dolly Parton.

With so many different things that the club does, you can see that this club is a great way to help you feel

connected to the community.

Counts recalls why she joined the call by saying, "I've always had a good experience with the InterAct club and I wanted to do my part and give back to them and the community."

As for Sherry, she joined the club because "it helps me better understand how to be a part of the community."

If you are a student who has thought about joining, do it!

The club provides hands-on volunteer opportunities for students who would like to give back to the community, where you will be able to see the positive impact that you helped create.



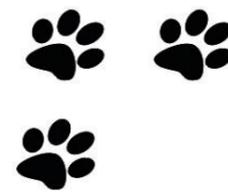
Wilsonville InterAct members are looking to create their own version of the Peace Pole that is similar to West Linn's, as seen here, on the WHS campus. Photo by Laura LaJoi.



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Life without dances

By Kaiya Shivers
Staff Writer

Homecoming, Winter Formal, Prom, each school has different names for these staples of American culture.

School Dances, an essential part of a highschool experience, the centerpiece to our favorite chick-flicks and a night you'll never forget.

The dances were something to look forward to every year to bring the student body together, encourage school spirit, and have a lot of fun.

The idea of not having a single dance this year is extremely saddening.

Last year when prom was called off, we all felt terrible for the seniors. However, now I'm not feeling as sympathetic because each of our senior events this year are inevitably canceled!

As a freshman, I remember being in awe watching the senior Homecoming King and Queen be crowned and having the best time at my first dance.

I was even more excited to watch the Prom Court at Springfest. To have these milestone traditions stripped away from us seniors is dispiriting, but not having any dances at all is heartbreaking for the entire student body!

Freshman Eli Nelson; sophomores Kinsley Dart and Cooper Hiday; Juniors Kellen Hartford and Avery Lanz; and seniors Hunter McIlmoil and Ava Stenstrom all had several comments to share.

Dart declared, "My favorite dance is the Hawaiian one because it is super casual and it's right after the football game!"

Sadly we have already missed out on two of four dances this year, including the annual Homecoming. Hartford and McIlmoil agreed that "Nothing beats HOCO!" Hartford continued, "There is always so much anticipation and events leading up to it!

Nothing beats the Friday night lights or spirit week to kick it all off and it was so much fun!"

When Lanz and Hartford were asked what their favorite part about these events were, Lanz shared, "My favorite part is definitely picking out a dress and getting ready with hair and makeup."

Hartford replied, "My favorite part is that it's a school wide event, meaning everyone is included. I'm pretty upset that there are no school dances, they're a great experience for everyone whether you chose to go or not."

Everyone is disappointed in different ways about annual



Juniors Rosie Killelea, Lindsey Antonson, and Avery Lanz posing for photos before last year's homecoming dance.

Photo provided by the author.

school events being cancelled.

However, it's also tough not being able to experience any of these highly anticipated activities for the first time.

Nelson shared his disappointment in not having any dances for his first year of high school, "Hearing about prior dances from my friends made me really excited to see what they were all about. I was stoked for the energy of the upperclassmen and wondered

what these events would be like".

In spite of this year's online school situation we haven't given up hope yet!

McIlmoil and Stenstrom shared their thoughts on senior prom. Stenstrom mentioned, "It's so sad that we might not have springfest or prom, especially because it's been a tradition at Wilsonville for so many years."

McIlmoil said, "I miss the dance experience and was

definitely looking forward to prom this year. Unfortunately the odds may not be great for us but I hope we get lucky because prom with my friends would be an amazing memory!"

Despite not attending school in person, as a student body we are still connected through this strange event happening to us.

Being deprived of school dances, among other things, due to a pandemic isn't fun; but we're all going through this historical event together and it is something we will look back on and remember forever.

Not having a single school dance this year is completely tragic, and something that should only exist in horror movies, but these issues are insignificant compared to what else is going on in the world.

We can all take advice from Cooper Hiday who expressed, "High school dances mean a lot, because the memories we make, and experiences we have will last a lifetime. These dances only happen a handful of times so we should make sure to enjoy them while they last!"

Through this pandemic, we should learn to cherish everything and take advantage of each opportunity available because nothing is promised.

Ways to improve your mental health

By Emery Borgen
Guest Writer

I suffer from the lifelong fight that comes with mental illness. I have suffered from being sick in the ungodly hours of the morning due to my anxiety. I have been stuck in waves of depression that cause inspiration and motivation to disappear into thin air. I have missed many days of school and I've lost friends.

My own depression has not allowed me to get out of bed, or even to eat anything all day.

My anxiety causes more stress about those missed school days and the loss of those friendships which leaves me stuck in a vicious cycle for months on end. So what does one do when

stuck in a cycle like this one?

The first thing I would suggest is to seek out a counselor or therapist. Therapists can help with many issues - anything from stress at work to battles with mental illness.

If you are struggling, ask for help. Find someone that works for you, that you're comfortable with.

The second thing I would suggest is taking breaks. It is too easy to get wrapped up in your own mess; take a step back, and take time to breathe. And it can be anything from taking a mental health day, to simply taking a break from social media. Whatever you can do to help.

Life can become overwhelming, allow yourself that time away from the chaos.

Consistency is key, have a set daily routine. Routines not only help you keep track of the days, but they are perfect for making you feel accomplished even on the worst days. Having a routine gives you set goals that are achievable every day.

Add a hobby to this routine. Find at least one thing you enjoy doing. Life does not always have to be all work and no play.

As best as possible, get some fresh air, even if it's only for a few minutes. Take those few minutes to focus solely on the world around you.

Take a walk; sometimes simply sitting outside helps aid the headaches and lift the spirits.

When it comes to anxiety, there are a few tips and tricks I have learned that have helped me and others.

The first tip is a breathing method called 4, 7, 8: breathe in through the nose for a four-second count, hold your breath for a seven-second count, and then breathe out through the mouth for an eight-second count. Do this until the panic or anxiety has lessened.

Another tip is called grounding, the 5-4-3-2-1 technique.

Look around you, what are 5 things you can see with your eyes? Name them in your mind, or write them down somewhere.

What are 4 things you

can physically touch? Label them.

Next, what are 3 things you can hear? Label them.

What are 2 things you can smell? And lastly, what is one thing you can taste?

What this technique does is help bring you back off the edge, it helps focus on the things around you instead of the anxiety.

Mental illness is a lifelong battle. Because of this,

it can be overwhelming and add to the stress if you do not know how to help yourself.

The trick is to find what works best for you. In my own battle there has been lots of trial and error.

The one thing I do believe is that it will get better.

Take the time to help yourself and it will get much better, and everything will work out in the end.



Senior Emery Borgen, pictured above, guest writes about mental health. Photo provided by the author.



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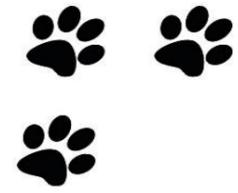
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Covid doesn't stop Wildcat athletes

An in depth look at season 1 sports

By Abby Maoz
Staff Writer

When COVID-19 first hit back in March of 2020 causing the cancellation of the school's spring sports season, Wilsonville High School staff and students were devastated. However, Wilsonville has gone into season one of the 2020-2021 school year with big and safe plans.

The staff has worked to figure out a way to adhere to the OSAA season one guidelines to ensure safety while allowing students to still practice and participate in the sports they love.

The Oregon School Activities Association (OSAA) has set up a set of guidelines so that Oregon schools can practice and participate safely during season one of the school year.

The OSAA season one guidelines states the sports and activities permitted during season one (August 31 to December 27) will not be designated by the OSAA. This means that it has been left up to each individual school district to decide what, if any, workouts,

practices, or competitions they will allow at their campuses.

Many schools are taking it upon themselves to decide what is the safest option for them. Wilsonville High School has commenced the start of their season one practices but has arranged that all practices be held in an outdoor setting.

The OSAA has also arranged on its calendar that no sports are formally scheduled for a fall season. However, season two, which begins on December 28, 2020, will include, swimming wrestling, and basketball.

This hasn't stopped Wilsonville High School athletes from getting in their training. According to Wilsonville High School athletic director Dennis Burke "season one at Wilsonville has been going very well." Burke explained, "in talking with athletic directors and administrators around the state, there are schools that are participating outdoors and indoors, or just outdoors

like we are so far. For example, outdoor volleyball, track, cross country, and 7 on 7 football."

COVID-19 has created many obstacles when it comes to bringing back sports. For some students it can be frustrating having to adapt to all the changes that have been made.

Senior football player, Josh McKenzie, says, "it's been annoying having to wear masks all the time; it makes it harder to breathe." However, even though running across a football field with a mask on isn't ideal, Josh looks at the bright side, "I'm just glad we're out there again because I'd probably be going insane if we weren't."

Many of the students at Wilsonville, being eager to get back into their season, have been making the most of the offered practices.

Senior cross country runner Gabi Bean says, "it kind of sucks that we can't have actual races, but at least we still get to run together as a team



Wilsonville High School Track Team at running at a practice this fall. Photo by Bryan Rector

which I enjoy a lot." All together Wilsonville seems ready to have a great year for their athletics.

According to Burke, Wilsonville has around 450 students who have committed to participating and about 48 staff members who are involved with the athletic program this year.

The West Linn-Wilson-

ville School District is hopeful for the upcoming seasons. The district is constantly monitoring the COVID-19 case numbers and metrics to make plans for future seasons. If the metrics start to improve, Wilsonville is hoping to open up more opportunities as people become more comfortable with the situation.

Freshman athletes stay prepared for delayed seasons

New athletes attack high school sports from a distance

By Maddie Holly
Guest Writer

Friday night, the lights spotlight the stadium as the Wilsonville Wildcats take the field. The team starts to perform their warm ups and stretching routines. This year, these Wildcats on the field are a sports team practicing in masks during their assigned 90 minute training window.

As anxious Freshmen prepare for their first sports seasons as Wilsonville Wildcats, they learn that under Oregon School Activities Association's ("OSAA") new plan, their seasons are scheduled to start in late winter and go through the spring.

At first, athletes were disappointed to hear their seasons were pushed back, but ultimately they were thrilled to see they were going to be able to play, even if it meant waiting a couple of months.

Even though OSAA's new plan has been released, the dates are not official and could be pushed back longer if COVID-19 case numbers in Oregon continue to rise. Athletes in Oregon continue to question whether or not their sports season will happen.

Star freshman soccer player, Jasmine Brown, does not believe she will have a regular soccer season. "It depends on if numbers go down or not. It definitely won't be normal though. I think we will probably just have



Women's basketball stretches with partners before practice begins. Freshmen are on the left. Photo by: Justin Duke

practices and maybe a few practice games. I don't know if they are still thinking about doing actual games though," stated Brown.

Practices this year are much different than in years past. All athletes are required to wear a mask, as well as maintaining at least a six foot distance from others. "We have to socially distance

during practices and wear masks at all times. We also do drills that involve a lot less contact.

While soccer, lacrosse,

football, baseball, and softball are all played outside on their fields, sports like basketball are

"Wearing masks is new and can be pretty difficult at times, but I am just happy to be able to play again. I kind of got used to masks after a while," Jasmine Brown.

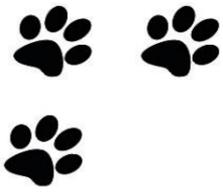
struggling to find outdoor locations due to school district restrictions on indoor practices.

Women's basketball has been practicing at Boeckman Creek Primary School on their outside court. Since this court is a smaller space, it can be hard for the coaches to enforce social distancing. Due to the size of the court, the coaches are working extra hard to plan drills that simulate the game as much as possible while still keeping a six foot distance from other players.

"At softball practices, they do a great job of making sure people are 6ft away by giving frequent reminders and having the drills more spaced out," said Talia Valdez, a freshman softball and basketball player.

Much like how Brown feels about her soccer season, Valdez does not believe her basketball season will happen. "I don't think the season will happen because it is a full contact sport and uses a lot of endurance. Even with masks, I don't think it will be safe to have the full season," stated Valdez.

Brown and Valdez, as well as many other freshman athletes, are working hard at these practices to stay prepared for whenever their first sports season as a Wilsonville Wildcat will occur.



Splendid senior signings

Wildcats begin to look ahead to their college athletic careers

By Bryan Rector

Director of Sports

Wilsonville High School

is no stranger to tremendous talent across the arts, activities, athletics and academics. This odd year is the same.

A distinguished group of four seniors have committed to further their talents. They have endured an abrupt end to their junior years, rigorous competition in club seasons, and working to spread their names during an NCAA recruiting "dead period". Overcoming these obstacles is commendable and deserves recognition.

Without further delay, here are your Wildcats who will take their talents to the next level in 2021....

Sydney Burns is a varsity basketball player who has been described as poised, a leader, a hustler and ultimately versatile. She is the definition of a leader by example. As the point guard of the Cats team, she has been around during the brightest years. Most notably, she sparked a ferocious comeback against La Salle last year and



Wilsonville High School holds signing day on November 18th. The next chapter is beginning in a short time for these athletes.

a state semifinal appearance.

She has opted to take her talents down south to University of California -Davis. When asked about her decision to attend UCD she volunteered this... "I chose Davis because of the tradition and the team environment. I really enjoyed meeting

the coaches and I felt like I really connected with them quickly."

Emilia Bishop is a varsity player for girls basketball. She has become a seasoned player who is dominant in the post. As tough as they come, she has allowed no one to stop her from grabbing rebounds and

blocking shots. A catalyst on the teams who made deep state tournament runs as well as a club phenom, she has opted to pursue the next level at the University of Northern Colorado.

On her choice- "I chose UNC because it felt like a family when I visited... It ticked the boxes in competition of athletic and academic competition, and it just felt natural."

Abby Maoz is an obscenely decorated swimmer. She has swam at Junior Nationals and other national competitions. A ridiculous amount of time spent training, practicing and learning have helped her accomplish so much. She has described days where she swims for a few hours in the morning, has school, goes to crossfit or some sort of physical dryland training and then swims for more hours at night.

She has chosen to swim at LSU, an SEC program in Louisiana. "The team atmosphere was just so welcoming for me..."

the coaching staff is really big on pushing you in a positive way to become the best you can be."

Reese Stalheim has been a vital part of the Wilsonville cheer team for many years. The cheer team is one that has also reached the upper echelon of teams in the state and Stalheim has by all means done her part.

She chose to further her career on the cheer squad at California Baptist University. "I chose CBU because of the amazing program they have created over the years. I have watched them for years and I wanted to be a part of their strong work ethic and amazing foundation."

About WHS she mentioned, "The most important thing about the Wilsonville cheer program is the friendships I have built and the titles we have earned as a team and myself as an individual."

One thing is certain... This group is special and will continue their journeys representing WHS well. Signing day is November 18th at school.

Each sport for its own

A positive aspect of all the accurate stereotypes

By Sara Stewart

Guest Writer

Sports have been a big aspect in high schools since the 1700's. Shaping the culture and aura of many high schools. Students mold their whole high school experience around what sport they aspire to play and excel at.

Throughout the years sports have developed and changed, each uniquely turning into something different and with this the players changed too. Each sport began to have a reputation, yet students began to feed the "stereotypes".

The students began embracing the differences their sport brought. Either if it was being the basic football jock-type team with the perfect cheerleader always by their side -we all know them- or if it was embracing the invisibility your sport held.

Riley Scanlan is on the varsity basketball, football, and track teams, and has helped lead our teams to success. The football games are the most attended at the school, but the real question is what percent really knows how the game works? It seems to be more of a social event than an investment in the strategy. However, Scanlan embraces the recognition his sports receive, "I love that each game we have the whole student body with us as they show their support with full school spirit."

A different opinion is seen through Hunter McIlmoil. Hunter has

been a major part of the cross country and track team. She explained that she's lucky if there is one student not on the team there,

"Normally I just see coach Barkley and the few regular parents supporting." She's not complaining though. Who would want to have the whole school watch as you cross the finish line, exhausted, gasping for any ounce of oxygen? She's just fine with being able to avoid the student body on this one.

Aspiring (and very likely) D1 star, Sydney Burns has made an appearance on the basketball, soccer, cross country, and track team and plans to even try volleyball and tennis this year.

Having tried so many, Sydney has a greater appreciation for less common sports. "We won bowling state last year," Sydney said, "Yet I didn't see anyone raise an eyebrow."

She mentioned how maybe this wouldn't be the worst thing. Being a leading player on many teams has taught Sydney how to deal with the stress that can come with. She feels she has the whole school watching, ready to catch the very rare mistake. The concept of being able to excel but not having pressure of



Sydney Burns and her basketball team after winning. Everyone is joking together showing their unity. Photo by Greg Artman.

the nonexistent failure option is pulling her to maybe try bowling.

Tennis player Griffin Mcknight was able to explain his views on the existence of cliches. He commented that, "I think there may be a certain degree of the cliché 'jock' persona among the football team but everyone has differing opinions."

He explained that was what led him away from football

after highschool, but he soon learned more stereotypes were true. Tennis is thought to be pretty laid back, a good chance to hang with friends. While Griffin ultimately agrees that this is blatantly true he said that it creates all the more appeal for the sport.

The culture of high schools is shaped by all different sports and the distinctions between them. Many view these as a

positive as they are able to find the good where others see a negative.

Students have learned to turn stereotypes into a good thing, one they appreciate, instead of one that separates the sports from each other.

The accuracy doesn't stop in sports either. I might not expose it all but let's say everyone's not so wrong about the choir, band, and theater kids too.



The Struggles Students Experience With Distance Learning

Working at home should be easy, but is it really?

By Kylie Hadden
Staff Writer

Wilsonville High School students this school year have begun school with comprehensive distance learning.

This system of daily classroom zooms, online assignments, and online learning already has caused many students to experience struggles at home.

Freshmen Talia Valdez and Junior Ryland Espejo are two students who have already experienced the downsides to distance learning.

Valdez's main reason why she's not enjoying CDL this quarter is because of not being able to attend school in person to learn and see her friends. She shares, "School has been one of the main places that I see my friends and am able to socialize outside of sports and free time."

Espejo's reasoning is more focused on academics;

he explains, "... the material is way more rushed than normal, so something that would normally take 3 weeks to learn is only taught in 1 week or less."

Questions are extremely important for students to help them understand a concept more.

Both Valdez and Espejo have felt that asking questions virtually can be difficult.

Espejo points out how he has to spend time to teach himself material because "... it's harder to ask questions when not in class." In addition, Valdez mentions how her and peers aren't able to "privately ask questions and have a good conversation..." with their teachers if they are having a hard time in class.

Even though students are in the comfort of their own home, there are times where they can miss being in person in the classroom.

Valdez expresses how

she isn't loving sitting in her room all day. "I am stuck in my room all day because I have a sibling doing school in another room. The days have definitely been going by faster because I have been doing the same exact routine each day and haven't been walking to and from different classes."

CDL has made students realize what they miss about being at school. As a Freshmen, Valdez wishes that she could experience her first year of high school. She hasn't even been on campus yet to see the school.

Espejo misses hanging out with his friends and working with them on group projects. "A lot of the work is independent and everybody is in a different spot in their learning," Espejo shares.

The West Linn-Wilsonville District has extended the reopening schools to the end of Quarter 2. Students will continue with their CDL classes as Quarter 2 begins on November 10. Continue to work hard Wildcats!



Freshman Talia Valdez preparing for comprehensive distance learning for the day. Photo courtesy Talia Valdez.

Tips for Zoom and how to learn the most

Pro tips for getting the most out of distance learning

By Mikayla Brehm
Staff Writer

This year, school is looking different than ever before; with the struggle to avoid outbreaks of Covid-19, many schools have started teaching online.

Wilsonville High School has adopted the comprehensive distance learning concept in which students will start this year at home using zoom meetings and google classroom to learn and eventually transition into in person teaching when safety requirements are met.

With this new form of learning, different approaches must be implemented in order to take the most out of lessons. With different learning environments and different approaches to teach the materials, no one has found the perfect system yet.

Clarissa Klein, a senior at Wilsonville High School, is currently taking three classes, two of which are advanced placement classes and described her tips for learning have been altered from previous years.

Klein claims the most important thing in the comprehensive distance learning concept is to always have chargers

nearby and if possible always plugged in because you wouldn't want to miss any vital information because a laptop has died.

Especially this year, making sure technology is charged is vital since the school is relying on it more than ever to teach and communicate.

Klein recommends everyone having a water bottle in your work space and to stand up and have stretch breaks in between classes.

Klein says without drinking water and sitting for long periods of time is not good for anyone's health. Sitting down all day will not benefit anyone and students should make sure they are physically healthy so that they may focus more on their school work.

Lastly, Klein highlights one of the benefits of online learning, stating you can have a "companion to lean on." Since your classroom may be your home, you can find comfort in your pets to get you through stressful or overwhelming moments.

One of Wilsonville's science teachers, Mr. Schauer, has had to change the way he teaches lessons to be accessible to all his students online.

Schauer understands the difficulties students are dealing with; he thinks every student should come to class with the mindset, "I'm in Room 104 with my teacher and my classmates" with a consistent routine to transition from home mindset to a school mindset.

Suggesting that reducing distractions around you will allow you to do more of the work in class and will aid you

towards a better learning and understanding of the content.

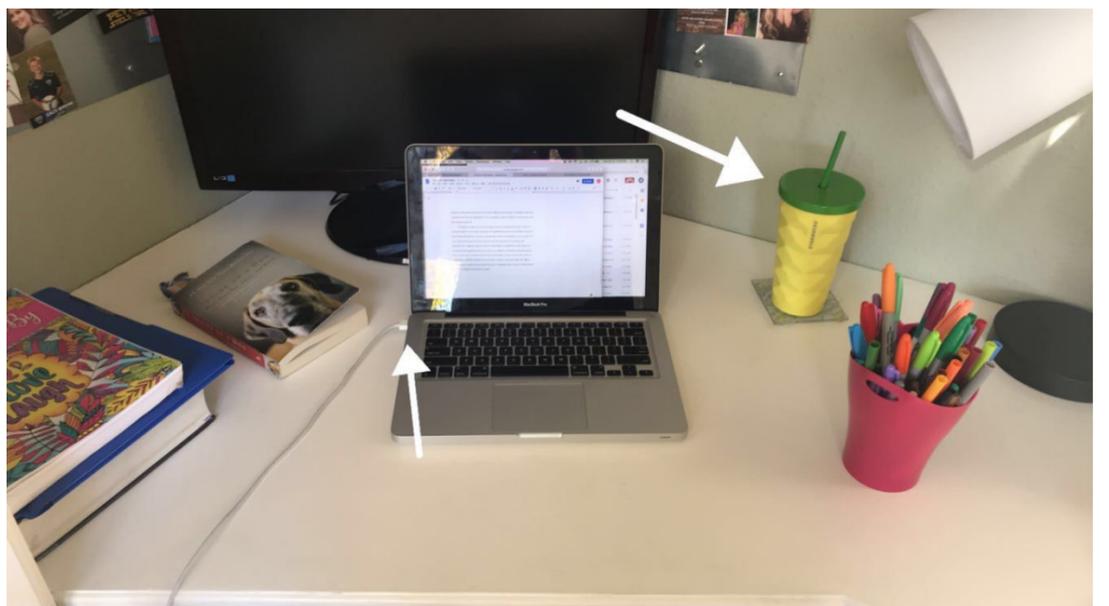
During class time, Schauer urges students to ask questions: either by unmuting or typing in the chat. He understands that it is more awkward than raising your hand in a traditional class—but it is worth it!

Outside of class, Schauer addresses the importance of going to office hours if possible, "with questions or to

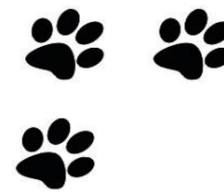
hear what others are asking."

Schauer also mentioned that these can not only help students in any class, but it may also be translated to lots of other endeavors in life too.

Especially in these times, students need to find more creative ways to engage and keep learning since they can not be in the traditional classroom setting. Hopefully with these tips, you may translate a few into your routine!



Mikayla Brehm shows her classroom set up for attending classes virtually. Students across the nation have had to adapt and create their own classroom setting. Photo provided by the author.



How *Miss Rona* is impacting AP classes for the 2020 school year

Are students finding benefits to the modified courses?

By Sydnie Bierma
Guest Writer

AP classes play a huge part in most high school students' experience. Students take AP classes to challenge themselves and attempt to earn college credit. The AP set up this year differs from previous due to covid.

The biggest difference between this year and past years is the length of an AP course. AP classes are now offered in alternating quarters, compared to the full year courses that were offered in previous years.

Junior, Corinna Thomas, has a huge problem with this. She feels it will be hard to retain the information throughout the course because of this break. "I'm just nervous about having to retain the information with the quarter long breaks while keeping up with the other classes," says Thomas.

On a more positive note she feels that the teachers have

been extremely helpful in understanding that it's harder to learn online. She also enjoys having online resources available in class to further supplement her learning experience.

Junior Anna Burkhead offers a different perspective. She feels pretty neutral about the modified AP classes this year, but she did mention that it's "WAY EASIER TO GET DISTRACTED" and that she misses the typical in person lecture from teachers such as Ms. Hamer.

"Meh" -- Junior Anna Burkhead on the pros and cons of distance learning for AP classes.

Junior Miguel Tejada, feels that his biggest hurdle to overcome is how many AP classes he's taking in general. He argues a great point that "there's less classes per quarter," so he feels like he has more time

to properly digest each class. He also brought up that teachers, "have made it clear that they are available before or after school." In general, Miguel actually has a fairly positive attitude about the whole situation and doesn't feel that

his learning is compromised. Karina Borgen focused on the unknowns. Borgen stated, "I am pretty nervous for the AP test because I don't know what to expect. I have a good teacher who knows what he's doing, but it's hard to expect anything when

we are all online at the moment."

Like the others she mentioned the extra online resources do come in handy when it comes to AP, but she too is struggling with motivation to complete her work.



Miguel, Anna, and I on our lunch break. Despite the challenges of distance learning, friends find ways to have fun together. Photo provided by the author.

AP classes during coronavirious

By Kate Jeffries
Staff Writer

In the 2020-2021 school year, Wilsonville High School students have had to take on the new challenge of Comprehensive Distance Learning.

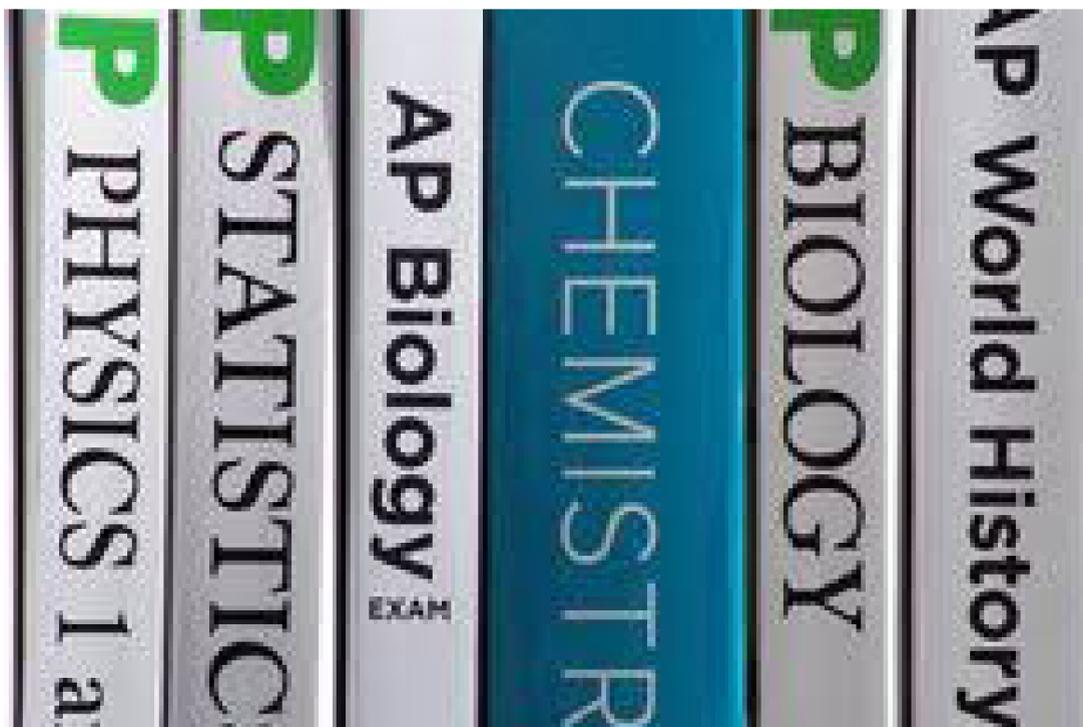
This means that students take three classes quarterly, daily going on zoom with their teachers to understand the topics they are learning.

For most classes, the CDL approach to school has not appeared to be a big issue, but what about for AP classes?

AP classes are usually prepping all year for the big annual AP tests. However, with the new CDL model AP students will have quarter breaks from their AP classes as well as a much faster learning pace during quarters in order to learn all the content needed for their exams.

How are students and teachers at Wilsonville making sure they are prepared for AP exams this year?

Senior Clarissa Klein is currently taking AP Bio and AP English as well as AP stats in the second and fourth quarter. She



Picture of a stack of AP prep books. Kids usually use these AP prep books to prepare for the AP tests that occur around May in the school year. Photo provided by the author.

expresses, "I feel like more work has been crammed onto students in less time than before." But in order to tackle this problem her teachers are coming up with creative solutions to keep information flowing during the break.

Klein explains, "During the break in between quarters

most of my AP teachers are deciding to assign optional work, so it's up to us whether we follow along or not. I think that it will be beneficial to continue studies so that when we come back we will have retained information and will not have to go back and review, taking away from learning time."

However, Clarissa is not only relying on her teachers to get information needed for the test.

She says, "In addition to my teachers, I use resources like the College Board to get great summarizations over topics and it's guaranteed their information will be valuable for the exam."

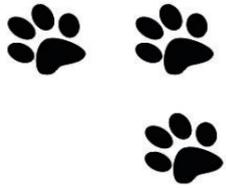
Junior Alyssa Sun has also come up with her own strategies to help her succeed in her AP classes while at home.

This year she is taking the rigorous course schedule of AP Lang, AP Government, and AP Econ in this quarter as well as AP Physics C and AP Computer Science starting in quarter two.

Alyssa expresses that for her, CDL learning "has made things much harder. Everything feels rushed and too condensed to fully understand everything." In order to combat the new system which she expresses and fully comprehends the subject on her own, Alyssa says, "I rely heavily on Khan Academy and AP test prep books."

For many students at Wilsonville the CDL model has definitely made it difficult for them to learn and retain knowledge needed for AP tests.

However, it is not impossible. Just like Alyssa Sun and Clarissa Klein, using optional materials from teachers and outside materials for tough concepts can help every student succeed on their AP tests this year.



This year's fall play: *Trap* by Steven Gregg

By Jasmine Brown
Guest Writer

This fall, the Wilsonville high school theatre program has chosen *Trap* by Steven Gregg, as their next school play! With a mix of sci-fi, drama, mystery, and multiple twists, it's sure to keep viewers entertained!

But many are wondering, what changes will be made to ensure that we can watch the play while keeping students, staff, and family safe?

"Last spring we filmed *Crush* over Zoom and it was presented like a Zoom movie.

This time *Trap* is filmed more like a traditional film, with students being filmed in their scenes individually. We have a film editor putting the footage together afterwards and adding music and special effects.

Thanks to the broadcasting department, we are able to use high-quality cameras, which improves the quality of the final product by quite a bit." Mr. Katz, one of the teachers working on the play, said.

This means that students will have to memorize their script, act everything out, and re-

cord by themselves. Even though it sounds difficult, staff and volunteers are prepared to work hard!

Mr. Fitzgerald, the other teacher putting together the play, also told us "We picked a *Trap* because it's one of the easiest plays to record and edit." And it looks like the theatre program is having a lot of fun experimenting and trying this new way of theatre.

"I think everyone would prefer if we could do the show in person, but I'm extremely grateful that we are getting to perform *Trap* online" Hannah Jacobs, a senior at the high school said. "The one downside to this year being my senior year is the reality that our final show might be online. But I'm still super excited to be able to perform in general!

Hannah is one of the 3 seniors in the fall play. She plays Angela Lure, a 16 year old girl who's one of the main characters.

The next few plays and musicals may be all online, but no matter what, she chooses to look at the brighter side of things. "Recording this show and premiering it online provides us with a lot of unique opportunities. I'm excited for audiences to see what we come up with!

Because most of the theatre program were seniors last year, half of cast of the play are also new freshmen, filling up many of the open spots. This will be their first ever play with Wilsonville High School, and most of them have mixed feelings about doing it online.

"I'm really excited about being able to learn the process of everything and work with the upperclassmen, but filming and stuff related to dialogue is going to be really difficult since it's not in person like before" said Leslee Milburn, who is an ensemble member in *Trap*.

There's also many students who like having the play online more than others. "It is harder to have rehearsals, but I don't necessarily mind it" Sofia Cadell, another freshman, told us. She is Celia Brown, Quetta Meguruza, spanish broadcaster, and ensemble in *Trap*. "I'm just excited to see it after we're done filming."

Even though times are difficult, *Trap* is something we can all look forward to and have fun with. So remember to watch online on November 5th, 6th, and 7th!

WILSONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
THEATRE DEPARTMENT
PRESENTS

TRAP

A DOCUMENTARY THRILLER
BY STEPHEN GREGG

DIRECTED
BY JASON KATZ

THREE ONLINE PERFORMANCES ONLY
NOVEMBER 5, 6 & 7, 2020 @ 7PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT
[TEACHTIX.COM/WILSONVILLE/TRAP](https://teachtix.com/wilsonville/trap)

Wildcat drama presents *Trap* by Stephen Gregg. Tickets are available at <https://teachtix.com/wilsonville>. Poster design by Jason Katz

Music classes adapt to distance learning

By Bella Glastra van Loon
Staff Writer

Since last spring, classes have been required to adapt their teachings to match the guidelines put in place during the ongoing pandemic. This has been a struggle for many subjects but music classes have been hit the hardest.

Choir, band, and orchestra all depend on rhythm and timing, things that are difficult to match over an online format. Additionally, these classes are focused on large groups of students, combining their musical talents to create songs, but considering number limitations and social distancing, this is virtually impossible.

Last spring brought many challenges as teachers scrambled for new creative solutions and this year brings more and more ideas for the music students.

The majority of the music classes begin during the second quarter and continue during the fourth quarter and many have questioned how this format will work.

Band and orchestra are working together to make their classes great given the unfortunate circumstances.

Secretary of the Band and Orchestra Council, senior Kyra Allen describes how she and the rest of the council have been preparing for the upcoming class through socially distanced practices in the school parking lot and the possibility of a virtual performance.

Allen notes that they had a socially distanced "outside of class meeting in the parking lot before the weather got bad." Without the nice weather, second quarter music classes will take the zoom format like every other class.

Since playing instruments together over zoom is quite difficult, the class will likely mute their microphones and play along to a track so the timing is consistent and everyone gets to continue practicing their instrument.

Allen describes her thoughts on the online classes as "impersonal but it's the best solution we have." As for performances, Allen mentions the possibility of a virtual performance where the musicians record their part to a metronome and submit it to be spliced together with the rest of the orchestra.

Allen concludes, "it's sad that this is how my last year of high school orchestra is, but I feel very fortunate to be able to still be a part of it!" The council and teachers are continuing to work hard to make class enjoyable and functional during this year.

Similarly to band and orchestra, choir is also facing difficulties but has been preparing diligently for their upcoming classes.

This quarter, the choir has been learning how to use new recording software and staying on beat with a metronome

as opposed to a live conductor. With this new knowledge in their tool boxes, the choir students are able to focus on making music together but from the safety of their own homes.

Choir President, junior Lily Saunders, explains "the hardest part, at least so far, has been making the most of our limited time. We meet in person once a week, but we only have thirty minutes, so we have to use our time wisely to do things we can't do over zoom."

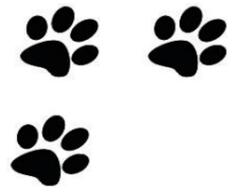
Like most other music students, there is a sense of disappointment in regards to the online format but also gratitude for the hard work teachers and students are putting in to make the best of the circumstances.

The preparations made will be tested next quarter when all music classes begin over zoom.

Despite the unfortunate turn of events 2020 has brought them, music students are still excited to practice and create music together no matter the virtual divide.



The high school orchestra meets in the high school parking lot to practice music together socially distanced. Photo credit Chad Davies



Visual Arts: how its shaping up online A look into the new normal of art classes

By Sara Stewart
Guest Writer

When someone thinks of an average art class they might think of paint splatters, camera snaps, pencil shavings, and the rushing of kids hurrying to finish and meet deadlines. What they might not think of is a group of kids logged in to zoom each painting, editing, or drawing from home.

Due to the pandemic of 2020 many schools were at a loss of what the 2020-2021 school year would look like. The West Linn Wilsonville school district announced that at least the first two quarters would be all online.

While this announcement drastically changed the course and structure of many classes it affected some more than others.

Visual art classes seemed virtually impossible. The idea of a class learning techniques and methods while not being physically to-

gether seemed far fetched. Andrew Worth is in Ms. Yang's art 2 class this quarter.

This is his first art class. He's not quite sure why he's in art 2 but he went with it- and he says even online Ms. Yang has made a way for all students to succeed.

Worth explained how the quarter has been split into three projects each about two weeks long. She then breaks the project into fundamentals where each day she pre-records a demo that she voices over and explains.

"The demos, even though they're online, are really helpful to understand the different aspects of each project," Worth explained.

Even though he does agree that the class in person would be way easier he has enjoyed being able to turn his room into an art studio an hour each day.

Katrina Brisbois is also one of Ms. Yang's students. Brisbois was able to explain how there is an option to conference one on one if they ever need help.

After each demo they have asynchronous time where they can work on their projects. If they ever need help or have questions Ms. Yang uses break out rooms to help students with questions or techniques.

Brisbois gives props to how Ms. Yang is handling online teaching but says she would rather see people in person not just a black screen.

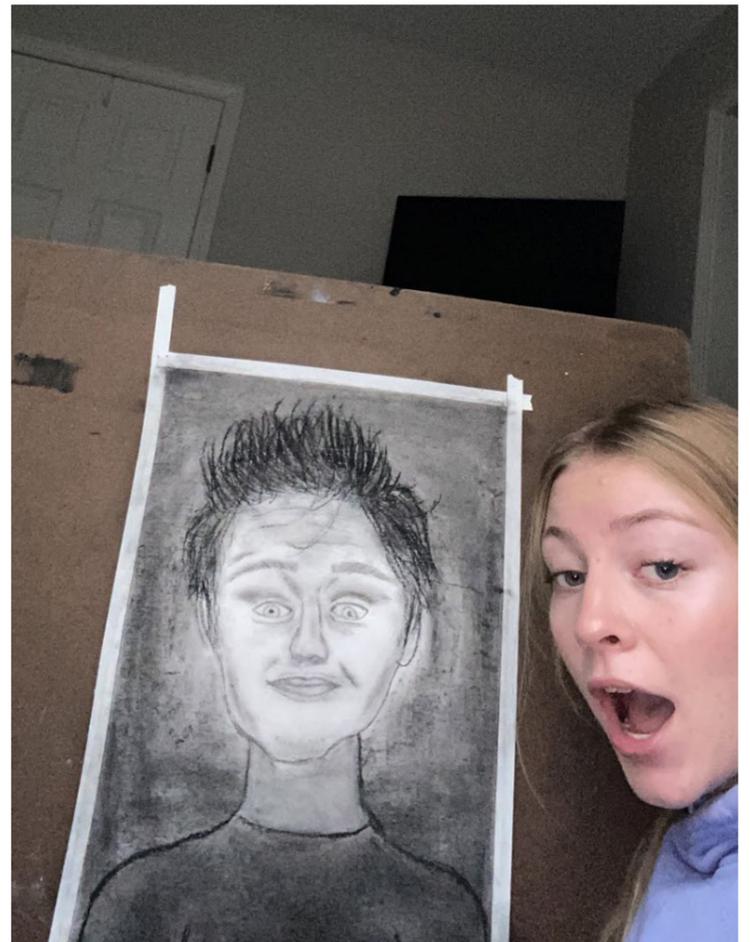
Freshman Meredith Krecklow is starting her high-school experience by taking a photography one class. She said that photography was always something she planned to take but didn't know how it would work online. She has been pleasantly surprised at how being online is actually helpful in some aspects, one being how they can easily see his online editing techniques.

The one downside she has noticed is when kids don't have access to cameras and have to use phones which produce less quality visuals.

Online visual art class seemed like an unachievable task but due to resilient teach-

ers and students it has turned into an experience benefitting both the student and the staff. Even though there's a defi-

nite agreement that in class would be better than live on zoom people are making it work.



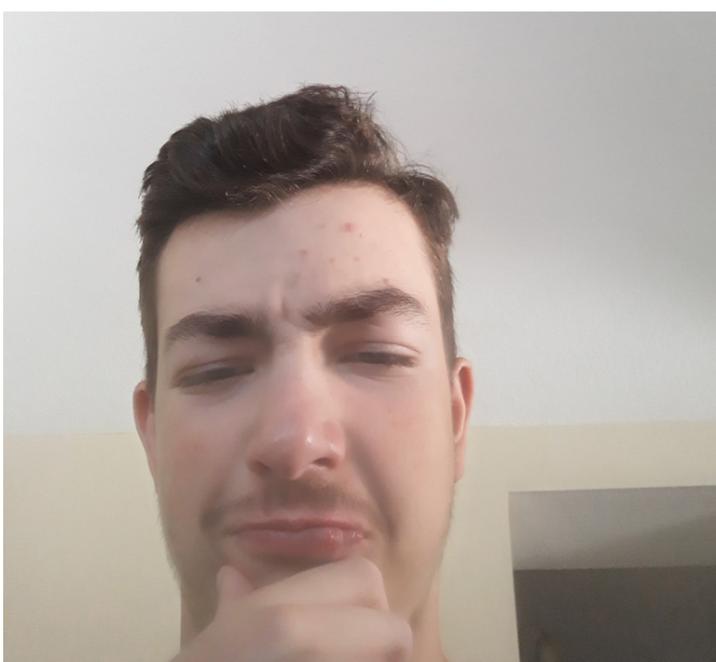
Brisbois shows off her final project this quarter. She's thankful that art is still an option during this unpredictable year.

Photo provided by Katrina Brisbois

Janice Yang took on the challenge as she began teaching art here at WVHS this year. She created schedules and routines to make the online system work and the students have enjoyed it.

A humble tale about -- ME!

One man's quest to watch every full-length animated movie ever made



Anthony Saccente (nicknamed Anthomation) reflects upon the deliciously dull experiences he had during quarantine. Photo provided by the author.

By Anthony Saccente
Staff Writer

Howdy guys, Anthomation here.

Today I shall do something a little different. Because I had to type up an article that relates to the school I am currently attending in my bedroom, I decided to talk about my experiences during quarantine.

I know right off the bat that it's not the first article about COVID-19 and definitely not the interesting, I hope it will be a fresh take on the issue.

At the start of quarantine, I had the "brilliant" idea of watching every American theatrical released full length animated film that exists. I knew that it took a while to fully complete (about four months), but I would have to be up to the task.

398 obstacles to overcome, some of them tougher to sit through than others.

From Toy Story (1995) to Frozen II (2019), I would first section off the movies between Disney animation and non-Disney animation. I would watch the non-Disney films before the Disney films. I would watch five movies a day, everyday for the non-Disney binge (lasting three months) and three movies a day for the Disney binge (lasting one month).

Because non-Disney is too broad of a classification, I chopped that down to individual binges based on production or distribution studios of this medium. So, there would be a separate binge for Pixar, DreamWorks, Blue Sky, and many others.

I don't plan to make this a pity party, so I will keep it short and simple with the mental and psychological aspects. Watching that

many movies a day could get a little old after a while, but I wasn't going to wimp out.

Plus, I would rather watch a bunch of animated films than sleep in all day. Also, I have a confession to make: there were a handful of obscure movies that I had to watch a movie review for since it was literally impossible to find a place to watch it online.

But let's be real, they were the type of movies that deserved to live in obscurity.

80% of the movies that I had the "pleasure" of watching I would probably never watch again. But, at least I get to brag about how I watched that one movie that none of my friends have seen.

As for the other 20%, I was absolutely stoked to watch them during the animation mania and will continue to watch those movies in the future.

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Freshmen orientation becomes virtual Link Crew tackles welcoming the class of 2024 over Zoom

By Emilia Bishop
Staff Writer

As the school and its students prepared to embark on a new school year, a year that looks vastly different from years past, one ritual event was sure to happen. Freshman Orientation is the very first school run event that happens every year. It truly is the best way to welcome freshmen into their new school.

However due to COVID restrictions, this year orientation was held over zoom. "...It was done very well. It was a little awkward at first when no one was talking but once we all got used to it and more comfortable it became easier," freshman Ashley Sheirbon said about being on zoom this year.

Another freshman, Avery De Vincenzi chimed in to say, "It was definitely weird; for sure a sign of the times. I'm just thankful we could actually do something. I'm very grateful for the work that was put into it."

The main difference was not being able to physically show the incoming students the school. However with the help of Wilsonville Broadcast Network, the students were able to be toured around the school.

Link Crew is the group of Junior and Senior students who help to welcome the Freshman on their first day of school. "This was an amazing leadership challenge," junior member, Miguel Tejada admitted. "I remember how much easier, having the link crew leaders made my freshman year," senior Ben Sheirbon added.

Link crew leaders help teach the newcomers about the ins and outs of the school, things that teachers do not have the time to teach the students.

One of these small tidbits is the room numbers, all odd number classrooms are on the right, while even number classrooms are on the left. One hundred rooms are on the ground floor, two hundred rooms are on the Upper level. All the bathrooms near classrooms are on the left. By the main staircases, the boys bathrooms are on the right, girls on the left.

The freshmen are told the main places to eat lunch. Most of them will end up in the cafeteria or the commons, while upperclassmen tend to sit in the library or the point.

They are advised to join clubs, sports and do more than just school. "We learned about what



Senior Link Crew leaders, Ben Shierbon and Emilia Bishop, work together to prepare for freshman orientation.

the teachers are like and what the workload would be like, we learned about what school would normally be like and what we all thought online school would be like," Ashley Sheirbon concluded.

Despite the feeling of unfamiliarity holding orientation over zoom, the link crew leader came together to create an event to welcome the incoming Wilsonville High School class. Having a welcoming community is such a big priority to Wilsonville.

Many of the freshmen from this year will go on to help other freshmen because they know what it is like to have to come into a new community. Some kids never have known anyone in their grade, others come from Meridian Creek or Wood Middle school and have grown up in the Wilsonville community.

Creating a culture is important in any place where you want people to feel welcome and comfortable. The community of Wilsonville High School has created a culture like this and the only way to continue the culture is to teach the new students about what has already been formed. That is what the true goal of the link crew is, to teach freshmen what it truly means to be a Wildcat.

Freshman check-in

The freshmen share what they're enjoying about highschool so far

By Peyton Tolboe
Staff Writer



Freshman, Aric Mistovich



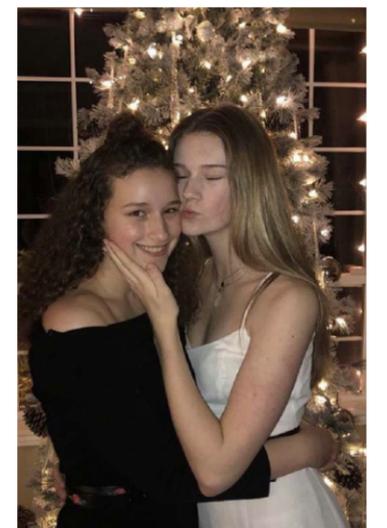
Freshman, Izzy Lively



Freshman, Cole Miller



Freshman, Max Buchwald



Freshman, Grace Kelso

"I think my favorite part of highschool so far has been the variety of classes. In middle school we only had a few different electives, but now in high-school there's so many more options and I'm more excited about taking classes because I'm actually interested in them."

"My favorite part of high-school so far is the teachers. They are always really understanding, and simply want the best for you!"

"I love having a lot more freedom. The variety in clubs, sports, and classes really helps me do what works for me and explore my interests."

"My favorite part of highschool so far is definitely meeting new people, and making new friends."

"I enjoy having the opportunity to meet new people."

Freshman class of 2024