STATE



the freshmen perspective

My year had a lot of unexpected turns but I really admired the way that PV handled the obstacles of the pandemic. For my first year at high school, I had many expectations, however, I noticed the attempt to make high school traditions happen for upperclassmen and that reassurance for a future student experience gave me hope. I used this to build up some close friendships and focus on the positives. Luckily, my cheer season on junior varsity was still able to happen and I made some lasting memories with my teammates. I learned a lot from the surrounding cheer teams and especially the seniors because I saw a lot of them who were disappointed by the cancellations and then mended by the events made possible by the PTA. I hope that by next year everyone will have reflected on past events and changed for the better. My class and I have changed and matured immensely over the course of the pandemic and it was a necessary change that allowed us the bypass some petty dramas and, more importantly, bring everyone together during an unexpected and dangerous time.

-Hannah McVey '24

the aophomone penapective

One part of this school year I'll definitely miss is my classes. I was lucky to have a lot of friends in many of the classes. In my English period, there were only 10 kids and we had so much fun together. My teachers were also extremely helpful, especially during a year as unpredictable as this one. I really appreciate everything they've done to make this crazy school year as smooth as possible. Another thing I'll miss about this school year is the senior class. I've made friends with a lot of seniors through band, Spartan Assembly, and some of my other subjects. They've always been so kind, encouraging, and willing to help me out if I need it. I'll definitely miss seeing them around at school next year! Finally, one of the things I'll miss most about school is being able to see my friends every day. Saying hi to them in the halls, talking with them in classes, and eating lunch with them are some of the highlights of the school day for me. Even though this year was definitely different, that was one thing that didn't change. I'll miss seeing my friends so often over the summer, but I'm looking forward to the opportunity to make more memories with them in my next two years at PV.

-Julianne Binto '23

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A look back at the 2020-2021 school year

One for the books. That may be the best way to describe the 2020-2021 school year. A year like no Spartan has ever experienced before, we certainly proved that, among so many other things, we are resilient. This school year began in the hybrid model and continued that way until February. Students were forced to adapt to learning on their own half of the time while in front of a screen, while teachers were thrust into the world of online teaching while simultaneously teaching students in the classroom. Terms like Google Meet, Zoom, social distance, and quarantine became household words used in everyday conversations. Our new normal was one that would have been completely unrecognizable just one year ago. Everyone was required to wear face masks when in the building or at a school event until mid May, when the mandate was lifted. Hand sanitizer was placed in the entrance to each classroom, where students were expected to spray their hands upon entry. Plexi dividers were placed on the lunch room tables to keep students from spreading droplets when their masks were lowered. Exposed students were required to quarantine in their homes for two weeks before returning to school. The death toll across the globe grew. With the arrival of 2021 and widespread availability of three FDA approved COVID-19 vaccines, things slowly began to improve. Spring sports allowed for more spectators, the drama department had in-person showings, the prom was able to happen after 14 months without a school dance, and the seniors walked across the stage of the TaxSlayer Center for their graduation ceremony.

Life isn't always sunshine and rainbows. Some days, it's going to rain. And you're going to forget your umbrella. Embrace the rain. It won't last forever.





The spirit of these Spartans is

UNbreakable. Here's how they
showed their resilience amidst
the COVID-19 global pandemic

"Both of my parents are psychologists and helped me through the mental toll of this pandemic." Cassie Smith. 21





"I have grown closer to my family and my parents started working from home." Ella Speich, 21

"The school changes didn't affect my life because I stayed online school." Ramya Subramaniam, 21





"I grew my relationship with God and trusted in my faith throughout the pandemic." Jonathan Sulgrove, 21





the junior perspective

Despite the circumstances, this year was filled with so many amazing instances. The senior class this year was so much fun and I know we'll all miss them next year. One of my favorite things about this school year was AP gov with Mr. Youngbauer. Our class had so many amazing discussions about different topics and we all got super close by the end of the year. I always knew that 5th period was going to be fun and I could be having the worst day and I would walk into that class and instantly smile. I'll also miss track and basketball and the amazing teams we had. Both of these teams were so close and had such an amazing group of people I'll always be thankful for. Our coaches were outstanding and pushed us to achieve what they knew we could but still allowed us to have fun. I also met so many new people and strengthened so many friendships throughout this school year. Despite distanced seating and masks, I found myself going out of my way to interact with people once we were back in school fully during second semester. My teachers really went above and beyond to continue our learning and to make their classes a positive environment for all of their students. The 2020-2021 school year was memorable and one I'll never forget. I can't wait to see what the future holds for everyone at PVHS!

-Natalie Carslake '22

the senior perspective

This school year has been unlike any

other, and although it has had its ups and downs, I am grateful for the many experiences I have been able to have. For it being my senior year a lot of expectations have failed to be met, but through that I believe our class really got closer. Many friendships blossomed and I will cherish the deep classroom conversations in honors journalism, and the jokes told in my pre-calculus and physics classes. Aside from truly enjoying all of my classes, I learned a lot as well. About life, friends, school, and myself. This year at PVHS has been one of a kind, and although it is hard to say goodbye to all of the incredible people I've met along the way, I will forever smile when reflecting on my time here. Masks, social distancing, the hybrid schedule; all of those aspects created difficulties, but they also created unique experiences. This year helped me build a foundation for my future, and I will forever be grateful for the PVHS staff, my friends, and my family for providing me with a memorable senior year.

> Sincerely, Anna Thorne '21

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