



November 2020

The Drumbeat

“What’s in it for you?”
Parsippany High School



Vol. 2

Virtual Insanity

Emily Adawi



It is no surprise that this 2020-2021 school year is a major change to all grades, so the question begs: “How do students feel about the newly organized school year”? Going from filtering students in and out of classes all throughout the day and hearing the bustling voices of a hallway packed with students, to opening your computer in your bed for a google meet. Each student has a different learning style, some can easily retain information through a computer screen, while others need extra steps to master the material.



A screenshot of a student’s computer screen as their meeting fails to launch^



Parsippany High School is one of many high schools to provide laptop devices for all students. A question in the survey pertaining to the quality of those devices has the students split into two different sides. 39.4% of the students chose that the devices they were provided was “mediocre”. What makes this

A survey was sent out to the student body of Parsippany High School, asking a series of questions pertaining to the satisfaction and productivity of the students. One way to go about virtual learning is attending virtual class meetings, whether Google Meet or Zoom. Out of 102 students completing the survey, 83% of the students stated they only use Google Meet for their class meetings, whereas 10% of the students expressed they sometimes use Zoom for their classes.

so significant is that the majority of the remaining students chose their personal devices over their school provided laptops.

It is clear that students prefer their own devices over the less than exceptional quality of their school provided laptops. It is less likely that students will go through technical issues if they are using their own devices rather than the school’s. Switching to virtual learning heightens the likelihood of technical difficulties and should be taken into consideration by school administrators.

Going hand in hand with all the students using technology at once, comes inevitable technical difficulties. After reviewing the results of the survey, 10.8% of the student body shared they experience technical difficulties every day of virtual learning; although the majority of the students stated it only occurs sometimes through their Meets.



COVID Clubbing

Nimeesha Huq

As COVID-19 continues to affect the opening of schools and how schools are running in the school year of 2020-2021. Specifically, sports teams and extracurricular activities at Parsippany High School are being affected.

ship opportunities. A large number of students in PHS are involved in Key Club, and leading meetings has been a struggle for officers and advisors Ms. Hulin and Mrs. Letsch. Struggles with attendance and running service events are difficult to manage with COVID-19 restrictions, especially in a club like this.

possible because of, first of all, lack of students in school to witness the art, and second of all, no one to even participate in these activities.

Schools are being forced to stay closed because of the

long-lasting Corona virus, which has been affecting everyone for much, much longer than anticipated. Because of

this, many extracurricular activities that usually go on throughout the year are forced to either not run, or run minimally. Meaning, some extracurriculars, like clubs, are unable to hold regular meetings and events like usual.



One of Key Club’s largest events includes the infamous Halloween at the High, a student run event where young children can come to school to trick or treat and play games wearing their Halloween costumes. This event has been canceled due to COVID-19 social distancing restrictions.

Key Club is largely based on interacting with others and performing service acts in larger groups of people, but because of COVID-19, obtaining service hours and performing service acts are more difficult than ever.

Other clubs also continue to struggle with the same problem, like the National Art Honors

Society, a national arts association promoting art in its largest form to encourage creativity and character.

As we delve further into the year, clubs and



extracurriculars still continue to try their best to adjust to the current situation at hand by increasing the flexibility of many extracurricular rules and regulations.

Key Club is the largest active club in Parsippany High School. It is known for being a large international service organization known for its involvement in service activities and leader

NAHS involves going to school physically to paint murals in the school and hanging up motivational cards with small paintings on them around the hallways. However, none of this is



The Drumbeat

From Doc's Desk: "Quarantine Decisions"

Dr. Mulroony

A few weeks into quarantine last spring, my wife Theresa turned to me, when our daughters weren't around, and said, "I think we should get a dog."

"What now?" I asked her, my head whipping around.

"A dog," she answered and then curled her hands in front of her and stuck her tongue out to illustrate her point.

"A dog?"

"Yeah, a dog." She confirmed without the canine pantomime this time. "For the girls. I think it would be nice for them."

"A dog huh?" Who is this woman?

"A. DOG." She said, as though each word was its own sentence, designed to explicitly communicate her frustration with me in the moment.

You'll have to forgive my disbelief. You see, my wife and I had always been in 100% agreement that we did not want a dog. Or a cat. Or a snake or lizard or hamster or chinchilla. We did not want pets. With our jobs and two teenage girls to cart around to sports and school and friends' houses, we simply did not have the time to give a pet a good home.

To take it further, my wife was never particularly fond of dogs. Don't get me wrong, she didn't wish them ill will; they just didn't do it for her. She also didn't have much experience with dogs and as a result, they made her a little skittish. She'd pet them to be polite but only with one or two fingers and with her armed safety extended.

I, on the other hand, loved dogs. I just loved other people's dogs. I didn't want some furry little being jamming up my free time with its bodily functions. I had my own stuff to do and limited time to do it.

As for the girls, they liked dogs, but from safe distances. They had a healthy fear of four legged creatures but loved the idea of having their own dog and had always tried to persuade us to get one for them. Theresa thought it would bring us all together, distract them from the state of the world, get them to put down their phones for a while, all viable goals... But mainly, she saw our daughters suffering with the quarantine, and she wanted to cheer them up. (My wife is a great mom by the way)

So when she announced that she thought a dog for the girls would be a good idea we had some serious talking to do. We debated size, breed, gender, temperament, etc... We researched food and vets and leashes and beds. We spoke to friends and family members with dogs. We got advice, solicited and unsolicited, from every angle. With such a big decision, after all, we wanted to be as informed as possible.

Eventually, after minimal haranguing, we agreed on a mid-sized, non-shedding dog with a personality like Tom Hanks in Big (fun, but not crazy fun). Our options selected, I said I would go to the dog store and pick one up to surprise Sydney and Emily. I'd be back in an hour, I thought.

I soon learned that it's not that simple. Apparently you can't buy a dog like you would a love seat.

Unbeknownst to us, due to the quarantine, practically everyone in the continental United States had the same idea and was trying to get a dog (there were, after all, a lot of frustrated kids). After multiple swings and misses, we quickly realized that adopting a dog was going to be difficult, so we turned our attention to

Critical Race Theory: What is it?

Ritika Patel

Based on Britannica, critical race theory (CRT) is the view that the law and legal institutions are inherently racist and that race itself, instead of being biologically grounded and natural, is a socially constructed concept that is used by white people to further their economic and political interests at the expense of people of color.

To better understand critical race theory, Kimberlé Crenshaw, a founding critical race theorist and a law professor at UCLA and Columbia universities says "Critical race theory is a practice. It's an approach to grappling with a history of White supremacy that rejects the belief that what's in the past is in the past, and that the laws and systems that grow from that past are detached from it." Critical race theorists focus on the regime of white supremacy and the constitutional right of equal protection. A few real life examples that involve CRT is Brown v. Board of Education or Jim Crow legislation and laws.

Although CRT contends with many roles, it also plays an important role in literature. There are many pieces of literature that incorporate CRT, for instance there is the Critical Race Theory: The Key Writings that Formed the Movement, Foundations of Critical Race Theory In Education, and Born out

of Struggle: Critical Race Theory, School Creation and the Politics of Interpretation. Even though this topic is not brought up often like the other topics being brought up on entertainment platforms, this is a very serious topic to pay attention to. Therefore, please consider the consequences of your words and actions, not just for yourself but for the impact they will have on others.



How You Doin'?

Ritika Patel

In these past few months, has anyone asked you anything regarding a mental illness? Does mental illness make you feel sick? Do you feel like your mental illness defines you as a person? John M. Grohol, Psy.D. says "Mental disorders remain complex disorders that involve all aspects of a person's functioning and life — their brain and biology, their psychological makeup and personality, and their social interactions and relationships with others." When discussing mental illness, many people that suffer this begin to believe that they are truly sick and they can not get better. They also believe that mental illness defines them as a person and they consider themselves a sick person. However, this is not true. Instead of calling it a mental illness, why not call it a mental condition? This one small change and positive connotation can help millions of people in the world. So why not give it a try? Also don't forget your mental health is just as important as your physical health! Focusing on your mental health can positively affect your physical state, financial stability, relationships and most importantly your happiness. Let's make this world a positive place to be in and don't forget to reach out to people in times of need.



If need be teachers, peers, and guidance counselors are always there to talk to, so take advantage of it!

buying one.

A few weeks later, we drove down to Amish Country and came back with a black mini golden doodle named Griff, and our adventure began. When I say adventure, I mean a crate training, accident cleaning, belly rubbing, leash pulling, trick teaching, attention giving, fetch playing, vet taking, foreign-object-from-mouth removing adventure. When we brought him home, not unlike it was with our first daughter, we had absolutely no clue and just wanted to keep him alive longer than a goldfish (for the record, we have done our part in reducing the egregious overpopulation of gold fish on the east coast!). But over time we figured things out and Griff got bigger and smarter and has outlived every fish and hermit crab that was unlucky enough to be owned by us.

At this point, five months later, we genuinely love the little bugger. While he's not Tom Hanks (yet), he's a good dude and we wouldn't trade him for the world. I have

to admit, as much as I love other people's dogs it's nice coming home to a creature that is so darn excited to see you when you open the door (more than I can say for millennial teenagers...).

As for the girls, mission accomplished. Griff cheered them up when they desperately needed it and brought joy to our house. They do their part to help out (sometimes with some cajoling) by taking him for walks, giving him baths and rough housing with him like a younger brother. If they would only stop leaving hair ties and cheese stick wrappers on the floor for him to consume and later vomit we'd be aces...

While Theresa's original goal was to help the girls, I think good old Griff has impacted her as well. The woman who was lukewarm and cautiously apprehensive to dogs in the past, takes walks and kicks the ball to Griff during the day and cuddles up with him on the couch at night. I didn't think she could be any kinder or more compassionate, but I was wrong.

What do we know about Amy Coney Barrett?

Katelin Chen

While many people are likely caught up in the tension of this year's election, let's take a moment to learn a bit more about the recently elected Supreme Court Justice: Amy Coney Barrett.

Judge Barrett was officially sworn in on October 27, 2020, following a vote by the Senate on October 26. What's important to note is that [whitehouse.gov](https://www.whitehouse.gov), a government-managed website, mentions that Barrett's confirmation was preceded by a unanimous vote, which is actually false. The U.S. Senate actually confirmed Amy Coney Barrett as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States by a vote of 52-48.¹ Even more concerning, is that the website claims that she "...was confirmed as a Federal judge for the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals after a bipartisan vote of the Senate".² The numbers do not show anything close to bipartisanship, as a 13:12 ratio does not prove concrete or thorough agreement.

What about Barrett's political opinions? According to the New York Times, the incumbent president has made it clear that he will "...appoint justices ready to overrule *Roe v. Wade*, the 1973 decision that established a constitutional right to abortion".³ Judge Barrett has considered multiple laws that would restrict abortions in her home state, Indiana, and has mentioned that she is in favor of overturning *Roe v. Wade*.

Barrett will be hearing a case on recent arguments challenging the Affordable Care Act on November 10. Had Justice Ginsburg been the one taking up the case, the challenges would be unlikely to succeed. However, Barrett's confirmation presents some uncertainty. In 2012, a ruling to uphold the Act was approved by a 5-4 vote. This may mean negative outcomes with Judge Barrett now on the opposing side, and continued apprehension over healthcare decisions in the United States.

Another issue the nation has been dealing with recently is that of the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution, which addresses citizens' rights to bear arms. In an effort to express her disagreement towards restricting gun laws, Barrett has written that she does not think felony convictions should not lead to gun restrictions if the crimes did not include violence. Gun laws present ever-evolving issues questioning morality, but these views definitely warrant concerns for civilian safety in the country. I'm sure many citizens would not be comfortable if a person convicted of a nonviolent hate crime had a gun in their possession.

On topics such as climate change and same-sex marriage, Judge Barrett has been relatively vague, but will likely lean towards conservative views in any rulings, especially considering her affiliation with anti-LGBTQ+



Wassociations.⁴

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2. "President Trump's Nominee for Associate Justice of the U.S." 26 Sep. 2020, <https://www.whitehouse.gov/scotus/>. Accessed 3 Nov. 2020.
3. "What You Need to Know About Amy Coney Barrett's Views" <https://www.nytimes.com/article/amy-barrett-views-issues.html>. Accessed 5 Nov. 2020.
4. "The Problems Barrett Poses - The New York Times." 15 Oct. 2020, <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/10/13/briefing/amazon-prime-day-early-voting-amy-coney-barrett.html>. Accessed 6 Nov. 2020.

Test Prep Corner

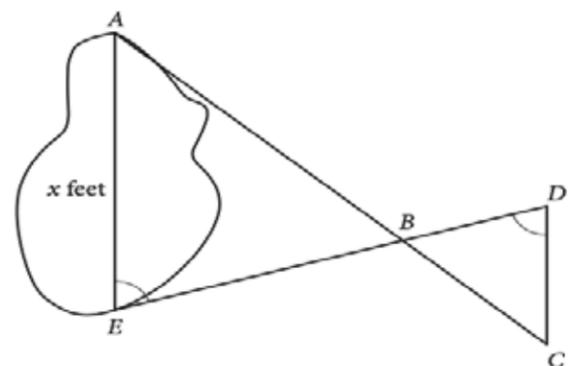
with Mr. Murphy

Can you answer these questions?

Because consumers reap the nutritional benefits of Greek yogurt and support those who make and sell 11 it, therefore farmers and businesses should continue finding safe and effective methods of producing the food.

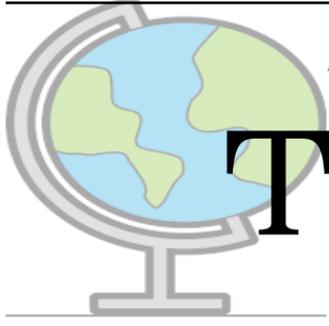
- A. NO CHANGE
- B. it, farmers
- C. it, so farmers
- D. it: farmers

Answer: B



A summer camp counselor wants to find a length, x , in feet, across a lake as represented in the sketch above. The lengths represented by AB , EB , BD , and CD on the sketch were determined to be 1800 feet, 1400 feet, 700 feet, and 800 feet, respectively. Segments AC and DE intersect at B , and $\angle AEB$ and $\angle CDB$ have the same measure. What is the value of x ?

Answer: 1600



Around the World

The Strike Against SARS

Mya O'Brien

In early October, thousands of people were involved in peaceful protests against police brutality and violent harassment through SARS (Special Anti-Robbery Squad) in Nigeria's most populous nations.

The protests started after a video showed a SARS officer allegedly shooting a man in Delta state before driving off in the very beginning of October. Since then peaceful protests organized linked with the hashtag #EndSARS have flooded social media.

The Special Anti-Robbery Squad was a Nigerian Police Force unit created in late 1992 to deal with crimes associated with robbery, motor vehicle theft, kidnapping, cattle rustling, and firearms. Recently, Nigerians have been calling out a ban to the organization which has led to "#EndSARS topped the global trends on Twitter, supported by world famous Afrobeat musicians like Davido and Wizkid. Their engagement gave visibility to the movement. Many more celebrities, such as musicians Lizzo, Cardi B and Kanye West and Manchester United player Odion Jude Ighalo, have since raised awareness about the protests and called for international intervention – bringing the issue to a wider

audience." says The Wall Street Journal. The police have denied accusations against the organization, but conceded after the protests erupted that there were "unruly and unprofessional" officers and said these people would face disciplinary actions.

Recently protests have turned deadly on Tuesday as security forces fired live rounds on demonstrators, killing multiple people. The decision to use military force to quell the demonstrations shifts politics into an uncertain phase in West Africa's most popular nation and largest oil producer. The situation that occurred was hundreds of Nigerian protesters had come together for the 13th straight night at Lekki Toll Gate, the intersection in an upscale zone that had become the symbolic home of the protests. Then a little bit before 7 p.m., the lights went out, causing a widespread of darkness on the streets. Within 30 minutes, Nigerian soldiers flowed from gun trucks. As demonstrators began to sing Nigeria's national anthem, "Arise O' Compatriots," the army fired live rounds at the unarmed protesters, leaving many people dead, and flooding Nigerian social-media feeds with images of bloodstained flags that have prompted international condemnation from



around the world.

It is said that, "After days of silence, President Muhammadu Buhari, a former general, addressed the nation Thursday evening, calling for protesters to leave the streets but making no mention of Tuesday's attack." (The Wall Street Journal) This has led to angry mobs in parts of Lagos, torching police stations, killings, attacking the property of government loyalists, and looting department stores to which all are still continuing currently.

Finding Motivation

Nimeesha Huq

45 year old Maheen Huq, is a multifaceted, first generation immigrant woman with a passion for caring for others and raising her children. What is her story, may you ask? I was given the opportunity to interview Huq and ask her questions to discover her inspiring story of her immigration to the United States. "Where are you from?" I asked. "Dhaka, Bangladesh." "How long have you been living here?" "20 years." "When did you come here?" "2001." "How old were you?" "26." She laughs. "It's been a while huh? Time flew." I then ask who she brought along on her new journey. "My husband," she replies. "Where did you settle down when you came?" "New York." "Did you leave anyone behind when coming here?" "Oh, of course. I left behind my mom, my dad, and my two younger brothers. It was probably the worst thing I've ever done."



"Then if it made you so upset, why did you decide to come in the first place?" "Well..." she started, continuing with a chuckle. "It was not exactly my decision to come here." "Then how did you end up here." She squints her eyes, remembering her past. "My husband and I got married and he got a work visa in the USA," she remembered. "So, I came with him." "Do you remember your first few months here in the USA? Describe them." I ask. "Well, I came in the cold winter. It was my first experience in winter, or cold weather in general," she replied. "And I can tell you, I did not enjoy it. One bit." This provoked my laughter as well. "Back home, I came from a joint family with tons of people in the house all the time. Plus, it was Winter and I had to stay home all of the time. In Dhaka, I loved staying home with a lot of people. Here...I had no one. I felt depressed and lonely. I wanted to go back badly. And then, there was my brother."

She decides to elaborate on the story of her brother. "My brother was suffering from a disease called Thalassemia when I left him and my family. The guilt and regret I felt leaving him...it was hard to get over it. Till this day even years after his passing, I regret it. I lived with the guilt of leaving him for years. Especially when his life was ticking time." Her sincerity and feelings for her younger brother were overflowing. "Was there anything in particular in your home country that you missed that you maybe didn't get here?" This question took a matter of seconds to answer. "Support from family," she instantly replied. "I felt like I had no one around like I used to back home. This is something I couldn't get anywhere else." I decided to ask her about her difficulties with immigration. "It was difficult. The first time I felt this was when I went back to my home country when my first child was born. I remember getting stuck in Bangladesh since I didn't acquire a spouse visa. I was stuck with my daughter for 10 months. It was a plus in a way. My brother was sick, and with us being stuck there, we were able to spend more time with him, since we weren't sure how much time we had left with him," she replied. "However, it was still a pain." "So after all of your hard times... how did you come out of it?" She thought for a while about this question. "I was lucky enough to have a supportive husband who was there for me when I missed my home. After starting a new family, I tried to cope in small ways, such as learning how to cook. I tried out new things to keep myself busy. After my brother died, I tried to remain positive, knowing I had spent at least some time with him before he left." "Do you have any advice for people coming to a new country and feeling the same way as you?" She nods. "For the people who are coming to a new country like me, I would just say to think positively. Think about the main purpose why you came. To live a better life. Think about that, and you will find motivation."



Cloud 9

Areezo Ahmadi



After a long battle, New Jersey voters accomplished their goal in legalizing the use of recreational marijuana for those above the age of 21, as of November 3, 2020. The

Brief History of Cannabis

Marijuana was first introduced to the states in the 1910s after being brought in by refugees. For a couple decades, it continued to gain popularity with the people. However, it was after Prohibition was repealed that marijuana was made illegal.

On November 6, 2012, Colorado was the first state in the United States to legalize marijuana since it was outlawed. Hitting America like a shock wave, more and more states began to follow. Weed is now legal for all adults in 11 states and for medical purposes in 34. As of this election five more states are pushing for its legalization.

amendment will take effect on January 1, 2021. Under the current state law, those caught with weed could face up to six months in jail along with a \$1,000 fine. However, it is still unclear what this new amendment will mean for those already incarcerated over the possession of marijuana.



Mountains in Colorado, the first state in the USA to legalize weed.

Benefits of marijuana include:

- 🌿 Relieves chronic pain
- 🌿 Fights cancer
- 🌿 Treats depression
- 🌿 Alleviates anxiety
- 🌿 Quiets ADHD/ADD
- 🌿 Regulates seizures
- 🌿 Lessens PTSD symptoms

TOTEM Corner

TOTEM is Par High's literary magazine. If you write poetry, short stories or have any other creative pursuits, TOTEM is for you! Submit your work to: ihearttotem@gmail.com today!

Sorry, Monday

It's 12 a.m.
and I hold solitude up to my computer screen.
I want to examine it and make sense of it, but it just escapes from the space between my fingers, leaving them stained with something I wish tasted better,
far from bitter (like Mondays), and closer to sweet...

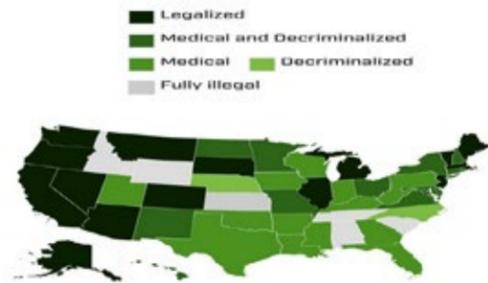
It's 1 a.m.
and before I know it, the computer screen ceases to gleam, and it flickers out, surrounding me in complete darkness, so my eyes fight to adjust to the scene.
Looking for the light switch, I clumsily trip, and find myself in the arms of sleep.
If only my blanket was on the floor with me...

It's 2 a.m.
and I'm still at work contemplating my place, barely making haste, and hoping that the words I can't

come up with will write themselves, while I give my thoughts a break.
I shouldn't even be awake, my "Need More Caffeine" shirt is covered in two days worth of coffee stains.
If only caffeine could make good ideas come my way...

It's 3 a.m.
and I'm barely awake, but I swear it's the wifi that needs a break,
so I shut the computer, and head to the comfort of my bed straight-away.
I don't realize it yet, but my alarm isn't set.
Sorry Monday, I guess sleeping in is just my fate.
I close my eyes and begin to slip into sleep,
as I pretend my Genesis has all A's.

—
-Krishna Parikh '22



Updated map of the legalization process each state is in (after the election).

What steps does NJ have to take to legalize Marijuana?

Before weed can be fully legalized, New Jersey has to prepare itself. State lawmakers have to pass the bill that will explain the rules and regulations of the uses of marijuana, while dispensaries must go through a licensing process before being approved for the streets. Along with the need for growers to expand the state's supply, this whole process can take up to a year.



THC is found in the resin produced by the leaves of the cannabis plant.

As the times change, so will the level of impact marijuana has on the world.

Sources:

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The Back Page

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Teachers Matter

Sumaiya Rehman

“Hey, how is your day going?” is a question we ask our peers and friends almost every day. Oftentimes, we are so consumed by our own problems and struggles, that we forget about others. With the pandemic and online schooling, we have barely any time to check in on our friends, and even our family. The workload may feel doubled and very overwhelming, and because of it, we take it out on our teachers, blaming them for every part of our grades that haven’t been the greatest. We say it is their fault for the insane workload. We blame them for us not being able to have free time. We blame them for our daily struggles now, because everything is their fault, right?

Wrong. The pandemic has shifted reality, showing us how difficult it is to adjust. But not only is it a difficult adjustment for us, but we should remember that it is difficult for our teachers too. During the summer, during the weekends, they spend hours creating work and grading work for us throughout the week and for the month. Because of the difficulty with adjusting, we blame them. But, why should we blame them for all their efforts in trying to give us the best education we could get at PHS?

Recently, a google form survey for all the teachers was sent out. The form received twelve responses, including your teacher’s honest opinions. Questions regarding their confidence levels before the beginning of the school year, adjustments, and opinions on how things have been going were asked. Your teachers had the opportunity to give their honest opinions and share their voices because their voice matters too. And with the data that was received, it is clear that not only are we as students struggling with virtual school but so are our teachers.

Some of these problems included communication (which had the most responses), distractions, and time management. Teachers also provided their own responses as to what they wish they could change, such as having afternoons off, being able to see their students in person occasionally, and shortening the morning classes, and making the afternoon ones a bit longer. Sound familiar? These are problems we, as students deal with too, correct? From all the information given by the google form, there is a noted pattern and that is that teachers deal with everyday problems regarding this big adjustment too! It’s not just us. It’s them also. They are our teachers, who put in hours and hours of effort into their teaching to perfect it and make us as comfortable as possible. They provide us with extra help from their homes, have a room set up even in their homes to give us an experience as if we are in a classroom.

The teachers are our friends too. They deserve to be checked on. They deserve all the respect during a time like this, with pandemic schooling. Their struggles may be beyond ours, or equivalent to ours. They have families to spend time with. They go to school and back home five days a week, and just like us, they have work, and time to spend with others on the weekends or days off. And we know that it is going to take a while for life to get back to normal. But in the meantime, as students, we have the opportunity, the ability, and should have the heart to not only ask our peers and friends but our teachers too, “Hey, how is your day going?”

Don’t Burst the (Sports) Bubble!

Peter McMaster

COVID-19 has affected the world in different places, in different ways. For example, the sports world. Traditionally, sports are played in a stadium full of fans, and most venues often let you get near the athletes themselves. With COVID-19 this has all changed due to the high risk of spreading the virus even further, which would put not only the athletes at risk, but their families and team personnel as well. So this begs the question, what is the solution?

The NBA season was cut short due to the original COVID-19 outbreak, and since then they have re-started the season, and made it a success. The NBA planned to play the end of the regular season, and then have the playoffs in a “bubble” located in Orlando Florida, in Disney world specifically. The “bubble” was named that because the plan to let no one in, or out before going through various COVID-19 tests. Due to the strict nature of the bubble, a total of zero players tested positive for the virus while playing in the bubble, which resulted in a successful campaign.

The MLB however chose to opt for a more traditional schedule. To begin the season. This changed however, once multiple teams had tested positive and games had to be rescheduled. As a result, the MLB chose to have a bubble in Texas, and had the playoffs held there to ensure no more major outbreaks.

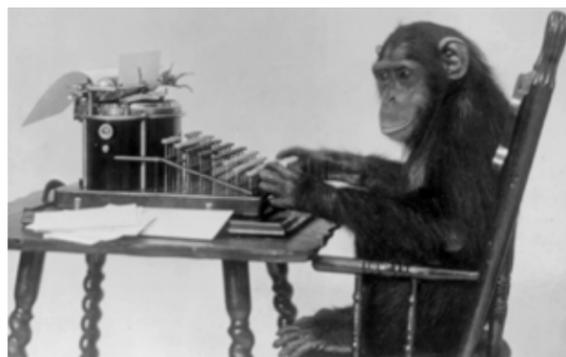
The NFL chose to do the schedule as planned. However, they enacted extremely strict regulations in and around team facilities. Players must wear tracked wristbands to trace where they’ve been and who they may

have been in contact with. In addition to this, players aren’t allowed to eat with others, and must wear a mask in the facility if they’re near others. Another protocol the NFL enacted was to put dividers in between every locker in the locker room. Players such as Aaron Rodgers have been vocal about these protocols. On the Pat McAfee show, Rodgers

cited these guidelines as “[Putting] a strain on that locker room conversation and comradery” and believes “There are some double standards. You can dap up a guy after the game, but you can’t eat at the same lunch table as your teammate. You can go down to practice and hit each other and be in close contact, but you have to have plexi-glass between you and the guy next to you in the locker room.” Rodgers went on to say, he believes the strict rules are necessary to get every single game in the season to be played. Just as of this week, 15 new players have tested positive for COVID-19, and 41 members of team personnel have tested positive also. Games have been rescheduled due to the virus, but the NFL has made it clear, they intend to play every single game as they have already planned it.

COVID-19 is a rapidly changing virus, with new information coming out every single day, and the ever changing landscape of COVID-19 has affected all sports leagues to come up with different solutions to suit the needs of their league.

Like to write?
Have good ideas?
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