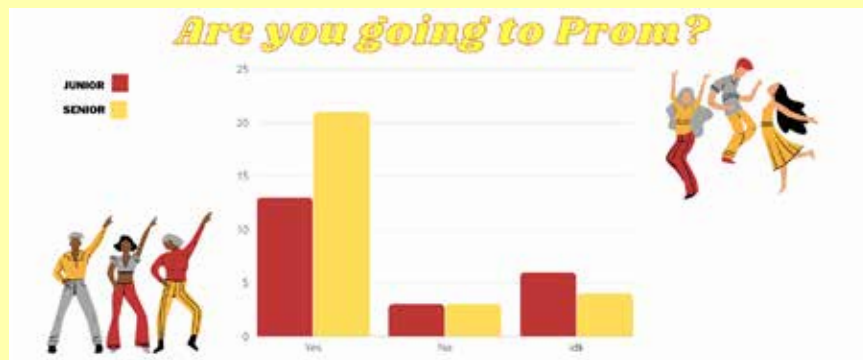


Prom-demic

By: Antonio Cayler @antoniocaylerr



Out of a convenience poll of 25 juniors and 25 seniors, these were the results when asked if they were going to Prom.

From fancy suits and dresses to glamorous pictures and going out to eat, prom is a moment that almost every student looks forward to. When COVID-19 struck in March of 2020, students were devastated because that meant prom and graduation were cancelled. The juniors and seniors who had already made plans and bought their dresses, had to continue their year without a dance some of them have been waiting for their whole lives. The seniors were even more devastated when the day they had been waiting four years for was ripped away from them.

2021 is a new year and COVID-19 is not gone yet, but due to new restrictions, regulations, and a determined school staff, prom this year is on. This year's prom will be on April 10th, and is split into two separate grand marches and dances. The "Junior" grand march is from 3-4 P.M. and the "Senior" grand march is from 4-5 P.M. For both grand marches, each couple will get four tickets, and it will take place in the Red Gym. The dances are from 7-8:30 P.M. (Juniors) and 9-10:30 P.M. (seniors). There will be time between both marches and between both dances so sanitizing and other necessary cleaning can occur.

Students are allowed to invite kids from other schools, but there will be a sign-up procedure that they must follow.

The class of 2020 was not given a traditional graduation ceremony. Instead they were provided with a drive through parade, and a video announcing the graduates names, along with the class speakers. This year's graduation will be at the newly named Alliant Energy PowerHouse (formerly known as the US Cellular Center) at 6 P.M. on May 30th. Each graduate will be allowed 4-6 guests.

On top of all of the new regulations, some old ones are still in play. Masks will be required at both events at all times, and if you, your date, or anyone in your group is feeling sick, staying home is necessary. "We are trying our best to make this year feel as normal as possible, and until someone comes in my office and says no to prom and graduation, I will do everything I can to make it happen," said Principal Semler. Some may think that this year's prom isn't worth it and that they have a good time, but we have all had a very rough year. If having a semi-normal prom means we get a night of normalcy, then we should all be for it.

Coping with quarantine

By: Noelle Regennitter @23norege

The safety guidelines our district follows seems to be everchanging. Specifically, the safety guidelines MISD follows have taken on some noticeable changes since the initial start of the 2020-2021 school year. Nevertheless, students attending school in person always risk being quarantined. In fact, the majority of students around the world experience similar feelings when they're forced to put a pause on their life.

Rachel Payton, sophomore, had her fair share of bitterness, as she's been quarantined several times before. "I've been quarantined at least three times now. It sucks. Not all of my teachers always do a good job at communicating what my assignments are and then there are like 80 assignments handed out just for my four classes."

Much like Payton, Cassie Walderbach, sophomore, said "I've had mixed feelings about quarantine since the start of the pandemic; most of the time I haven't really minded it because I enjoy staying home and not having to go anywhere, but there have been other times where I've found it a little more inconvenient, cause it's made it harder to do things like go grocery shopping and school."

Going into this school year, Walderbach made the overall decision to do

her schooling virtually (aside from her math classes), in order to keep herself; and her family safe. Walderbach has also continued working throughout the pandemic in which she plans to put her earnings towards college. Unfortunately she, much like Payton, has been quarantined before and didn't exactly love it.

"I'm more introverted, so I didn't have as much of a problem with

the isolation, but it still felt lonely sometimes." Walderbach said.

All in all, no matter your outlook on the current quarantine conditions, or even the pandemic itself, it's safe to say that we all miss the normalcy that even the simplest of everyday tasks used to have. Considering this, please be conscious of what you're doing to keep others and yourself safe and healthy.



Demonstration calendar created to visually show how much time being quarantined can take away from an individual's life.

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