

COVID-19 adds unique spin to second semester

The second semester of the 2019-20 school year will be a memorable one for students. Will it be known as the lost semester? As the longest recess? As the true test of Google Classroom? As the home-schooling semester? As a chance to catch your breath in a hurried world? Maybe all of those memories come to mind when the term “coronavirus” is mentioned.

The coronavirus, also known as COVID-19, originated in China in 2019 and has spread throughout the world in alarming numbers and at a startling pace. A pandemic like this has not been seen in the United States since the Spanish flu in 1918.

While talk in the United States of the coronavirus spread in late February, it didn't become real to many of us until the NBA postponed its season on Mar. 11. Then we saw the Iowa boys state basketball tournament tighten its restrictions of crowds by only allowing 100 people per team to watch the game. And on Mar. 15 our lives as Wildcats changed when we received word that classes were being suspended until April 13 to prevent the spread of the virus. And with that, the term “social isolation” became the word of the year.

MV administration and staff immediately took action to put students' needs first. The administration and cooks came up with a plan for students to pick up lunches and breakfasts on different days of the week. The custodial staff has disinfected the school. The teachers have been reaching out to students mainly through email and Zoom to first make sure they are physically and emotionally okay and to also provide them with ways to stay connected to their learning.

MV has adopted a voluntary education program in which teachers have shared new learning and projects. A document of resources was shared with parents and students to give students opportunities to learn skills that would normally be taught at this time. Because of equity issues, the district cannot require the work to be completed or grades. As of this publica-



During this time of virtual learning, several teachers and students posted videos of themselves reading books to the school Facebook page. Mason Lubben, pictured, is one of those students. Other students to date who have shared are Emma Beitz and Lydia Helle.

tion date, if we do not return to classes this year, students will receive whatever grade they had as of Mar. 13 unless the students choose to redo work. Students will receive the course credit.

While the work may not be required, several teachers have found ways to reach out to students. For example, some of Mr. DeVore's math students have had some Zoom classes, Srta. Ries has been sending out daily activities and Mr. Ford has been Zooming with students to plan next year's marching band theme. The spring play cast even had a virtual read-through.

Students enrolled in concurrent courses are still actively taking classes. Mrs. Palmer's and Mrs. Temple's NICC classes have moved to online instruction, and students taking online classes through Kirkwood are still doing so.

Teachers have also been reaching out to their WIN students via Zoom or email. Mrs. McDermott and Mr. Osterhaus have been contacting students as well.

This time away from the classroom has not been without expectations for the teachers. Along with reaching out to students, teachers have also been working on professional development lessons, including learning more about ELP (English Language Proficiency).

Mr. Tuetken noted that plans for prom, NHS induction, Dollars for Scholars awards, spring play and graduation are

still in the works. The April ACT has also been postponed to June 13. Several events, such as the Night of Jazz, FFA banquet and parent-teacher conferences have been canceled.

Some school operations, especially for the administrative team, have continued despite the quarantine. Mrs. Norton, who has been serving at the PK-12 school improvement coordinator and grades 1-2 principal at Johnston elementary, will start a new position at Grant Wood AEA next year, so the district has been realigning roles for her position. Mrs. Becker will remain the principal at Earlville Elementary but will also take on the principal duties at Johnston Elementary. Mrs. Frasher has accepted the position of elementary principal and K-5 curriculum/school improvement director. She will take on the duties at Delhi Elementary. She will also continue to lead the behavior and academic interventions for grades 3-5. Mrs. Moorman will take on the role of 6-12 curriculum/school improvement director/TLC Coordinator while remaining in the 6th grade classroom part time. She will also help Mr. Osterhaus with some of the middle school discipline.

Wyatt Rath from West Sioux has accepted the vocal music position.

The search for a shared superintendent with North Linn continues.

Sports Connection

Coronavirus attacks spring sports season, athletes keep training

by Paige Winter

As we all know during this break from school all sports have been suspended. But there are still a lot of Wildcat athletes who are putting in hard work to get better at their sports.

There are multiple teams including basketball, track, and cross country that have been working to get better and also many other individuals working to get better on their own. The athletic associations directed coaches to not have face-to-face coaching contact with students during this time.

The MVDT is even having virtual try outs over video at home.

Girls basketball has been having a virtual 7up club over zoom working on ball handling and form shooting.

According to Coach Conner, the boys basketball team has also been sharing workouts and drills to do individually.

Girls track have been given workouts by coaches to do individually which you can take a look at on the GTF twitter account.

Some of the boys on the track



The girls basketball team has stayed connected through Zoom.

team are also completing weekly workouts sent to them by coaches Dever and Meehan. Coach Helle has also been sharing workouts with the boys and girls throwing teams.

There are also a lot of other Wildcat athletes including students from almost every team at MV working hard on strength training by completing their VOLT work-

outs at home. Coach Arnold has said that there are 33 students who are consistently completing their volt workouts.

Congratulations to all the Wildcat athletes working to get better during this unexpected break! Your hard work isn't unseen and it will pay off during the next season!

**Maquoketa Valley
Wildcats
FOOTBALL
SCHEDULE**

#Fast.Tough.Finish.

NORTH EMMETT VALLEY JEROME	STANMONT HUNT	CASCADE HUNT	MFL WAR-MAC HUNT	NASHUA-PLAINFIELD HUNT	EAST BUCHANAN HUNT	NORTH LONN HUNT	BELLEVUE HUNT	ALBURNETT HUNT	ES-CO HUNT
08/21	08/28	09/04	09/11	09/18	09/25	10/02	10/09	10/16	10/23

**Tri-Rivers
All-Conference Boys
Basketball**

Andrew Holtz - 2nd Team
Avery Holtz - 2nd Team
AJ Ambundo -
Honorable Mention

football schedule design by Paige Panosh

what's up?

What would you like to make sure students know right now?

Mrs. Palmer: Seniors, I'm so sorry that you are also missing out on a part of your life you won't get back. Better days ahead for all of us and it's a time for us to be grateful for the things we do have.

Mr. Ford: I miss you all like crazy and can't wait to get back to making music.

Mr. Huegel: I miss you and our MV family. Stay safe and healthy. Make good decisions.

Srta. Ries: When life's throwing tomatoes at us, let's just make some SALSA!

Mr. Arnold: Students, feel free to reach out if you need anything at all.

Mr. Osterhaus: The staff at MV cares about you, so don't hesitate to reach out if you need anything.

Mr. Edwards: I really hope we get to finish out the rest of the school year so I can see all of our awesome students and teachers again!

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Kadley Underwood



You've been working on another impressive art project. Tell us about it. The project I've just finished is a grid art piece of the rapper XXXTentacion. It took a lot of time and effort, but I'm in love with how well it turned out!

What do you enjoy most about your art class? I enjoy the conversations and new techniques we get to use and learn about.

How do art classes round out your education? Being able to take art classes makes me a more creative person and it lets me express my talent. I've now taken all of Mr. Dunlap's art classes that the school provides and I consider myself lucky!

State speech goes on, on a smaller scale

Because of the COVID-19 virus, the IHSSA Executive Committee decided to cancel the four State IE contests as well as All-State. However, they encouraged school districts to have their own contest where judges would critique and rate individual performers; they would also be able to nominate students as All-State performers.

The Maquoketa Valley Individual Events Speech Teams competed at home on Friday, March 13 during the afternoon. Two centers with three judges each were set up. Both the 10 – 12 and the 9th grade teams did quite well.

The 10-12 team had a total of 36 performances. Those who received an overall Division 1 rating include Mason Lubben (AC and PA), Noah DeVore (AC and IM), Liz McDowell (AC), Lexi Deutmeyer (LP), Kailyn Hogan (LP), Allie Dunn (LP), Paige Panosh (SS and OO), Logan Johnson (SS), Abbie Sheehy (PR), Erika Supple (PR), Andrew Kloser (SMT and ST), Keziah Ambundo (SMT), Tony Offerman (SMT), Lydia Helle (EX and RV), Kendra Hillers (EX), Amanda Mohr (EX), Brock Trenkamp (RN), Preston Roling (RNA and PA), Carlie Lewin (RV), Molly Anderegg (RV), Carissa Sabers (ADS), Shelby March (ADS), Chance Downs (PA), Emma Hill (OO), Amaya Hunt (OO), AJ Ambundo (ST), and Kylie Chesnut (ST). Emma Beitz (IM and SS) and Kim Sellner (PR) received an overall Division 2 rating.

The 9th grade team had a total of seven performances. Those on the 9th grade team receiving an overall Division 1 include Saige Hunt (PR), Kaela Clemen (PO and PR), McKenna Thompson (ST), and Anna



Kailyn Hogan rehearses her literary program before school shortly before state contest.

Deutmeyer (ST). Emilee Supple (PR) and Erin Knipper (ST) received an overall Division 2 rating

Individual All-State nominations were announced, and MV had a total of 10. The 9th grade team performer includes McKenna Thompson (ST). The 10-12th grade team performers include Andrew Kloser (ST), Paige Panosh (SS), Lydia Helle (EX), Preston Roling (RNA), Mason Lubben (AC and PA), Carlie Lewin (RV), Shelby March (ADS), and Kylie Chesnut (ST).

Because of COVID-19, no All-State Festival will be held. Students will still receive medals and be listed on the IHSSA website.

District FFA competition held virtually

COVID-19 has also affected the world of FFA this spring. District contest was supposed to be held at Ed-Co Mar. 14, but instead Evan Elgin competed in the first ever virtual Northeast District FFA District Convention. He placed 5th and earned a silver rating in extemporaneous speaking. The entire convention was held via zoom, which is once again the first time this has ever happened since the Iowa FFA Association was established in 1929.

Amber Engelken and Lane Domeyer served as the official Maquoketa Valley FFA Chapter delegates during the virtual convention, and participated by voting on important motions and candidates

for the Northeast Iowa FFA District.

As of last week, the State of Iowa FFA Leadership Convention held in Ames, IA has been canceled. More details are to come in the next couple of weeks as to what will take place in its absence.

The annual FFA banquet was also canceled.

FFA advisor Mr. Edwards said MV's FFA chapter will hold its next meeting via Zoom.

Best Buds



Ella Mensen and Emilee Supple

by Paige Winter

How Long have you been friends?

Since 5th grade

What is your favorite thing to do together?

Make tiktoks

What is something that no one else knows about the other person?

Emilee: Ella's biggest fear is spiders

Ella: she seems shy but she's actually crazy

What is your best friend's favorite ice cream flavor?

Emilee: cookie dough (Ella's actual favorite is cookie dough)

Ella: chocolate (Emilee's actual favorite is cookie dough)

What is your favorite thing about your best friend?

Emilee: she is good at advice and I can go to her about anything

Ella: she can make almost anything a fun time

What is the thing about your best friend that annoys you the most?

Emilee: her phone addiction

Ella: she won't watch "friends" with me

Cutie

by Paige Winter

This cutie is a sophomore who lives in Delhi and loves pigs. Her favorite school lunch is a chicken patty. She has brown hair and participates in two sports.



Hall Smarts

by Lydia Helle

Due to the current state of quarantine, the Hall Smarts have become a place for fun facts instead of questions/answers. While they may be random, I hope to make all of you a little smarter in the halls of your home with facts that you may never need in your life. :)



The hashtag symbol is actually called an octothorpe.

The tall, pleated hat that chefs wear has 100 folds in it to represent the 100 ways to cook an egg.

Some cats are allergic to people.

The unicorn is the national animal of Scotland.

You can hear a blue whale's heartbeat from 2 miles away.

That's all for this week- "catch you on the flip side!"

MV TEL-ALL

compiled by Lydia Helle

The number of middle and high school students using e-cigarettes rose from **3.6** million in 2018 to **5.4** million in 2019.

Information came from CDC's "Youth and Tobacco Use"

Brain Teaser

by Paige Winter

You're in a dark room. You only have one match. There is a wood stove, a gas lamp, and a fireplace. Which one do you light first?

Answer: the match

what's up?

Teacher Version! What have you been doing to get your mind off of COVID-19?

Mrs. Palmer: I make it a point to get outside and exercise to maintain my positive mood and limit the amount of news I've been watching and reading. I've also got a lot of deep cleaning done. We have a goal of having our pontoon ready and in the water next week since it is forecasted to be 70 degrees.

Mr. Ford: Walks, video games and music. I'm composing a piece for the first time ever! I've had some ideas but never fully committed to it before. I'm hoping I'll be able to finish it during this time!

Mr. Huegel: I found out that developing a routine has helped tremendously. I don't set an alarm, but I don't sleep late anyway. I have been busy working on school materials, We have been doing a lot of family activities: basement pickleball, golf putting games, walks (my dog is loving this), movie marathons, etc. Unfortunately, my phone screen time report now looks like some of our students on a normal day.

Srta. Ries: I don't have time to THINK about anything with three girls 5 and under! We play every day, lots. I've done some cleaning and organizing projects around my home, and I'm wrapping up my 45-page masters dissertation.

Mr. Arnold: Working out, going on walks, reading/math with kids, watching movies, Netflix, Tiger King and I've completed probably five different seasons of shows I normally wouldn't have the time to watch. Mr. Osterhaus: Work! I've also been taking care of some home improvement projects.

Mr. Edwards: I have been back in Ames with my family during this whole time, and have been working for my dad in his automotive repair shop when I have time. I have also been getting some things around the ranch done, such as trimming tree lines, repairing fences around pastures and getting livestock lots cleaned up and ready for the summer. Lastly, I have become a professional Netflix watcher, and have watched all of Designated Survivor, Tiger King and continued watching Ozark. Mrs. Temple: Actually eat supper with my family and play board games

Before it all changed...



The jazz band performs at the annual Parade of Bands concert Mar. 3. The jazz band also competed at the UNI Tallcorn Festival in February and NEIBA jazz Mar. 7. The jazz band brought home a third place trophy from NEIBA jazz.



The MVDT hosted its annual Strut Your Stuff Mar. 7 to showcase their dances throughout the season. Youth dancers also performed.



Comedy Corner

—compiled by Lydia Helle

Yesterday, a clown held the door open for me. It was such a nice jester.

What do you call a bee that can't make up its mind?...A maybe

What do you call a lazy kangaroo?...A pouch potato

I was going to make a belt out of watches, but I realized it would be a waist of time.

What do you call an owl that does magic?... Whoo-dini



MV FFA hosted the Ag Olympics to culminate FFA week activities. Left: Tim Harmon, Krista Ries and Payton Beaman think some things through. Above: Erika Supple, Anna Deutmeyer get ready for a calf bottle competition. Far above: Seniors Lydia Helle and Carter Stahlberg pose in their Got Milk? shirts. (photos by Allie Knipper)