On March 13, Gov. Kay Ivey announced that all Alabama schools would be closed from March 18- April 6. Madison County Superintendent, Allen Perkins, made a call on Sunday, March 15 to cancel school beginning March 16.

We had watched as the NCAA cancelled the Big Dance, the NBA postponed their season and one by one events were cancelled or postponed. We felt bothered and ill that life was not going to be the same.

At first, we laughed at the MEMES. We voiced what we heard in the community “the media is hyping it all up.” We would kid our classmates when they coughed, saying “you have Corona.” Then, we heard the rumors that a case was in our area. Things changed for us then.

We became scared as people ran to the grocery stores, stocking up on food and toilet paper. Senator sports were canceled for the remaining of the school year and our seniors were unsure whether or not they would walk across the stage on May 19. Both juniors and seniors were waiting on the dreaded news that prom would be cancelled as well.

And then it happened. On Thursday, March 25, Gov. Ivey announced school would not re-open for the 2019-2020 school year. On top of that, the next day, Ivey announced that all non-essential Alabama businesses would be closed until April 17.

We spent our spring break inside our homes, depending on FACETIME and GOOGLE Hangout to see our friends and family. We went to e-learning on April 6 in order to finish our academic school year. This is where we stood at press time. The Senator staff redesigned this closing page to end our book just as the school year ended—with the impact of the COVID-19.

Top 10 Things We Learned

1. The importance of social distancing.
2. To enjoy the great outdoors.
3. To never take for granted those who work in grocery stores, shipping, medical or emergency fields.
4. How to give air high-fives!
5. To appreciate the small things.
6. Toilet Paper is worth more than gold.
7. How fragile life can be.
8. That we can actually miss school and our teachers.
9. To play board games again!
10. That no matter what... THIS IS US

Illustration by Lela Rasmussen

How would YOU describe this year?

“Chotic because of the Corona Virus and the talk of WWII.”
Sophomore Elizabeth Bell

“My year has been unlike any other year than any other. I have come across many new opportunities and friends and most have come through journalism and I wouldn’t have it any other way.”
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