

COLLEGE ARTS ONE

T A T A N K A

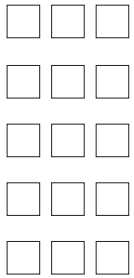
T W E N T Y

buffalo: minnesota
T A T A N K A 2021

BUFFALO HIGH SCHOOL



VOLUME
105

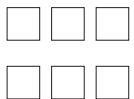


SQU ARE ONE

T
W
E
N
T
Y

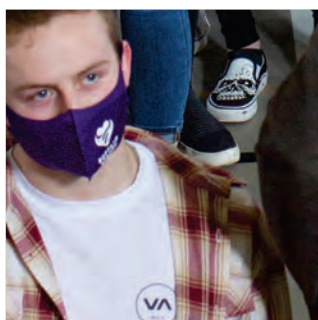
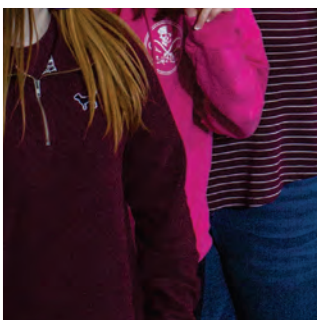
T
A
T
A
N
K
A

- 006 ■■■ SQUARE ONE
- 026 ■■■ STUDENT LIFE
- 048 ■■■ ACADEMICS
- 078 ■■■ PEOPLE
- 162 ■■■ ATHLETICS
- 200 ■■■ ACTIVITIES
- 232 ■■■ BUSINESS





SQU ARE TANKA ONE. TWENTY



BUFFALO HIGH SCHOOL
877 BISON BOULEVARD
BUFFALO, MN 55313

1949 STUDENTS - 182 STAFF

763.682.8100
BHS.BHMSCHOOLS.ORG



NO ONE

Lone footsteps echo around the empty halls of BHS. Students watch the evenly-spaced purple dots and arrows on the ground as they walk to their next class while staying in their lanes. Though halfway filled with people at the start of the year, the school feels empty – it resembles a ghost town. Hallways that were once filled with voices now carry only the faintest memories of laughter.

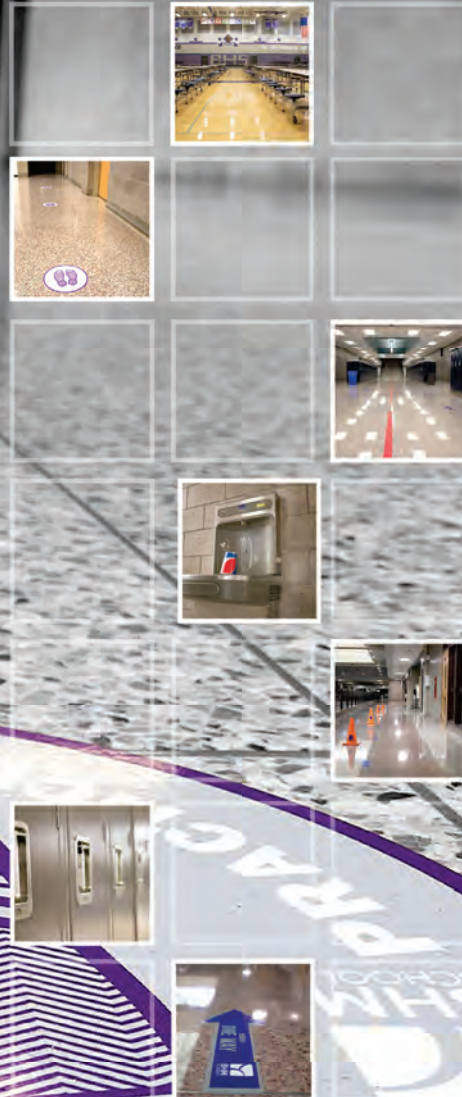
The smiles that accompany students' faces are now hidden behind masks, hiding not only our mouths, but our emotions and selves along with it. The constant call of "mask up" unceasingly rings through our heads.

Moving into the classroom, it's hard to tell who's who. An invisible wall, marked with thick tape on the classroom floor has been constructed between teachers and students.

Friends are hidden behind a turned-off Chromebook camera and teachers are left talking to an empty classroom. Some B-Day students fade from the memories of their A-Day classmates. We have lost connection with two thirds of our friends behind a screen, as familiar opportunities and traditions in the school and community vanished.

How do we rebuild everything that we lost?
How do we start again?

All Alone Coming to terms with the reality of her senior year, Molly Hedden '21 stares down an empty hallway. Hedden said she felt disappointed during her first couple days of school. "The first day of school was tough to come back to because I had been looking forward to my last first day since freshman year," Hedden said. "The stickers all over the floors were the most memorable because I didn't think something so small could become such a significant thing." Photo by Brooke Bergeron



It took all of the
PEOPLE
at Buffalo High School
to rise above the
barriers that COVID-19
placed before us



KATELYN WILLMERT '21 & ERIC LYNCH '21 | PHOTO BY ALAYNA MILLS

Our
ACTIVITIES
adapted to many new
changes by conducting
online meets, modified
rehearsals, and
competing virtually
against other schools



ELLA LICHTENBERG '21 | PHOTO BY ALAYNA MILLS

In his final year as
Activities Director, Tom
Bauman worked with
the Minnesota State
High School League to
overcome hurdles, allowing
ATHLETICS
to gather and compete



MADRYL WARMER '21 | PHOTO BY ALAYNA MILLS

Lockdowns and
quarantines brought
about new traditions,
fostered new
connections, and
transformed
STUDENT LIFE



NATALIA CHARREZ '21 | PHOTO BY ALAYNA MILLS

Teachers and students
worked together
to adapt to virtual
learning, remodeling
the structure of
ACADEMICS
as we knew it.



DILLON HUSS '21 | PHOTO BY ALAYNA MILLS

 **THIS IS OUR**
SQUARE ONE

SQUARE ONE

- 8 NEW OPPORTUNITIES
- 10 FIRST DAY OF SPORTS
- 12 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
- 14 CURRENT EVENTS
- 16 SWICH TO DISTANCE
- 18 NEW CONNECTIONS
- 20 MASKS
- 22 SPRING RETURN
- 24 WORK ADJUSTMENTS



Bright Side On a distance learning day, Elle Kaiser '21 comes into school to collect materials for her classes. Although the year took many twists and turns, Kaiser kept her head up and looked for ways to stay positive. "I typically avoid thinking about everything that has changed," Kaiser said. "This year has given me tunnel vision for my goals because the future is what I hope for." Photo by Emily Fuchs

STUDENT LIFE

- 28 ■■■ SUMMER TRENDS
- 30 ■■■ POLITICS
- 32 ■■■ COVID-19 PERSPECTIVES
- 34 ■■■ MENTAL HEALTH
- 36 ■■■ TRADITIONS
- 38 ■■■ DISTANCE DISRUPTIONS
- 40 ■■■ ENTERTAINMENT
- 42 ■■■ WINTER
- 44 ■■■ QR CODES
- 46 ■■■ FUTURE PLANS

Boarding Buddies On a trip up North with some friends, Cole LaPlante '21 hits the slopes. Although COVID-19 restrictions limited indoor activities, LaPlante and his friends found other ways to have a good time together. "It has been difficult trying to do normal stuff indoors," LaPlante said. "All of my friends and I enjoy doing outdoor things too, so finding things we all can do outside has been our goal." Photo by Sullivan Scherber



ACADEMICS

50	ACADEMIC ESSENTIALS
52	ACADEMIC TWEAKS
54	ACADEMIC RELATIONS
56	ART
58	TECH ED
60	GYM
62	MUSIC
64	MATH
66	HUMANITIES
68	SCIENCE
70	WRIGHT TECH
72	MUSIC GROUPS



PEOPLE

- 80 **SENIOR FEATURE**
- 84 **SENIORS**
- 116 **JUNIOR FEATURE**
- 118 **JUNIORS**
- 130 **SOPHOMORE FEATURE**
- 132 **SOPHOMORES**
- 144 **FRESHMAN FEATURE**
- 146 **FRESHMAN**
- 158 **FACULTY**



ATHLETICS

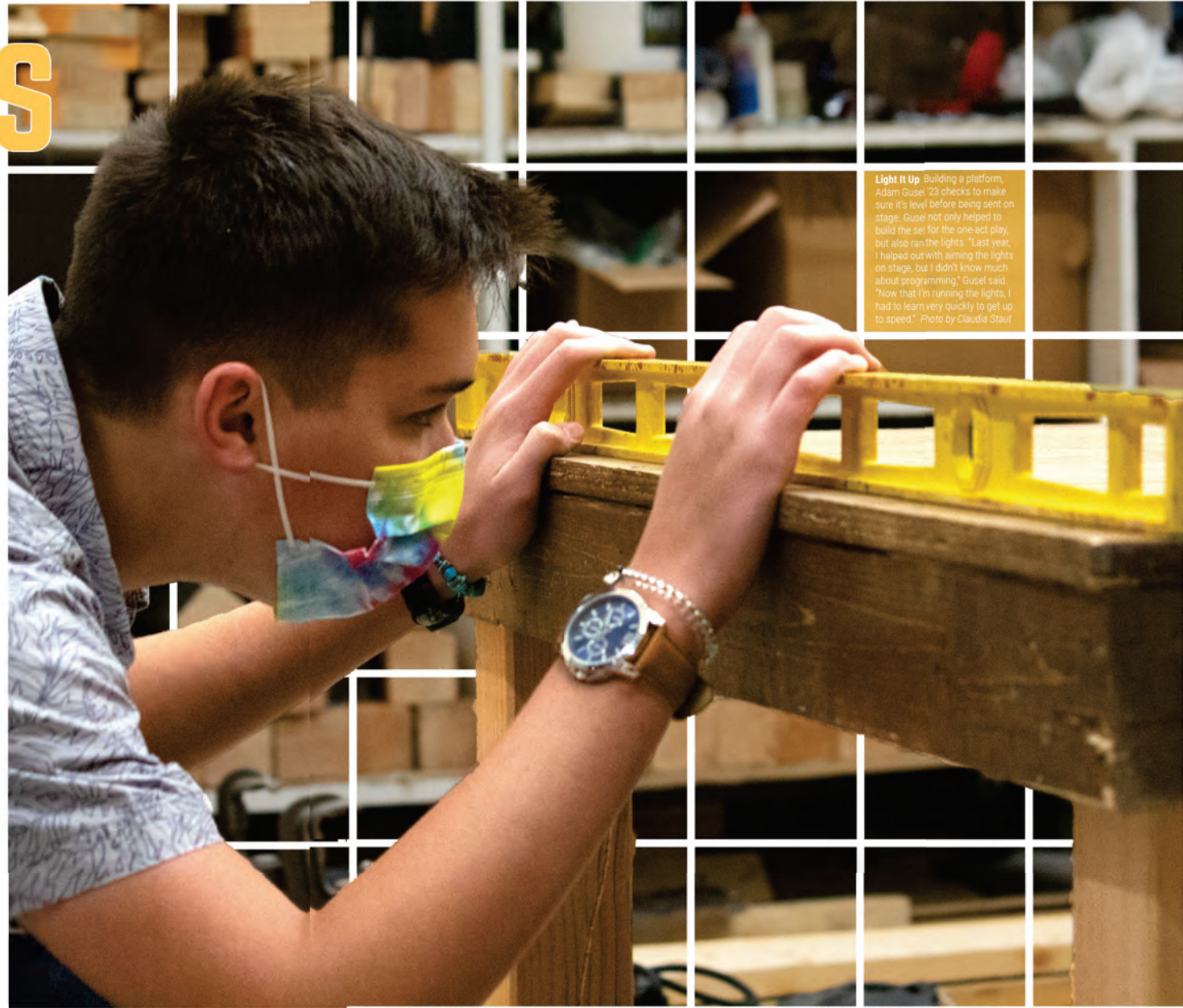
164	CROSS COUNTRY
166	GIRLS SOCCER
168	BOYS SOCCER
170	GIRLS TENNIS
172	FOOTBALL
174	VOLLEYBALL
176	GIRLS SWIM AND DIVE
178	BOYS SWIM AND DIVE
180	GIRLS HOCKEY
182	BOYS HOCKEY
184	GIRLS BASKETBALL
186	BOYS BASKETBALL
188	GYMNASTICS
190	DANCE
192	WRESTLING
194	ATHLETICS TEAMS

A Long Road Ahead James Dorado '22, Braden Bjornson '22, Dillon Huss '21, Andrew Macheel '23, Zachary Muellerleile '22, Jadon Boots '22, and Jacob Williams '22 warm up. COVID-19 caused the team to find new ways to compete. "We couldn't face all the teams," Boots said. "Sometimes we would beat the teams that we were racing, but lose to other teams that we weren't with but could've beat if we were." Photo by Eric Lynch



ACTIVITIES

202	NHS
204	STUDENT COUNCIL
206	BPA
208	TATANKA
210	FFA
212	MOCK TRIAL
214	KNOWLEDGE BOWL
216	ROBOTICS
218	JAZZ BAND
219	BHS SINGERS
220	TRI-M
221	CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
222	RADIO SHOW
224	ONE ACT PLAY
226	AMSAC
226	CLASS CABINET
227	ACTIVITIY GROUPS



Light It Up Building a platform, Adam Gusel '23 checks to make sure it's level before being sent on stage. Gusel not only helped to build the set for the one-act play, but also ran the lights. "Last year, I helped out with aiming the lights on stage, but I didn't know much about programming," Gusel said. "Now that I'm running the lights, I had to learn very quickly to get up to speed." Photo by Claudia Stauf

Nearly one year after being abruptly sent home, the once vacant hallways of BHS filled with sounds of joy and laughter bouncing off the walls. Voices carried from classrooms and computer speakers as students worked together with their distance learning friends to learn and grow. For the first time since March 2020, students and staff were truly seen and acknowledged, both in classrooms and through screens.

While taking the first steps towards a sense of normalcy, our school and community showed their resilience as they conquered each and every obstacle set before them. The foundations that once held up how we learned and interacted with one another were shattered, and the school and community worked together to create new ones that were stronger than any built before them.

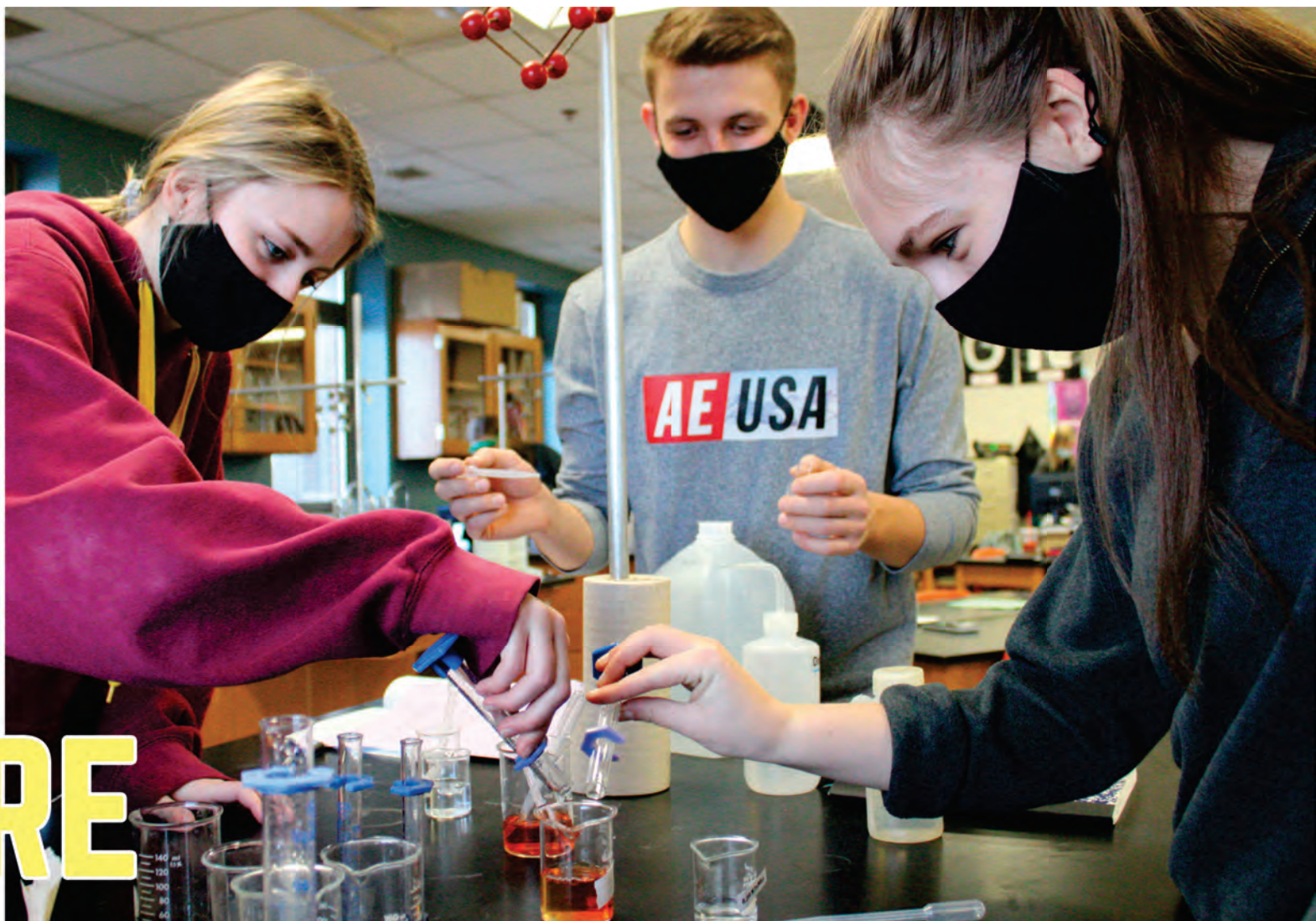
After nearly a year of silence, machines roared to life in the Tech-Ed hallway as students returned to craft and build. For nearly a year, the Performing Arts Center stage slowly accumulated dust. Now swept clean, shining instruments and purple robes cover the stage as music rolled through the doors of the theatre. The stadiums that emptied a year ago rang with the shouts and cheers as events crowded that once empty space.

COVID-19 left BHS with a scar that may never fully heal, but we made the choice to hold onto hope, to learn from the challenges that we faced, and to focus on how much we were brought together throughout the hardships.

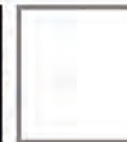
We were six feet apart, yet grew closer than ever.

This was our

SQUARE ONE



Steady Solver With steady hands, Julia Carter '21, Emily Fuchs '21, and Brennan Branger '21 complete a chemistry lab. In a year where nothing was guaranteed, each moment was valued more than ever. "It's been a weird year," Branger said. "We learned a lot about what is possible, and we may never experience a year like this again. As we push through, I'm grateful for all of those who are helping move towards a new normal." Photo above by Katelyn Willmert, photos below by Alayna West, Emily Fuchs, Brooke Bergeron, and Eric Lynch



PIVOTAL MOMENTS

Throughout 2020 and 2021, staff and students adapt, adjust to, and overcome a continuous stream of changes and challenges

SEPTEMBER 13

Fall sports such as Girls Swim and Dive, Soccer, and Cross Country began practices for their seasons with uncertainty ahead.

JULY 31

Governor Tim Walz made the announcement that Minnesota schools were allowed to open in a hybrid learning model for Fall 2020.

The class of 2021 gathered a day before classes started to paint the rock for a united Last First Day event.

AUGUST 16

After initially being told their seasons would not take place until spring, volleyball and football were granted their own season between fall and winter.

Principal Mark Mischke announced Buffalo High School's plan for Hybrid Learning with Distance Learning as an option for those who wanted it.

JULY 30

After Wright County COVID-19 cases reached 200 per 10,000 people, Buffalo High School moved all students to Distance Learning until February 1.

SEPTEMBER 14

Hybrid learning began with A-Day students arriving for their first day of In-person learning while B-Day students studied from home.

SEPTEMBER 28

Winter activities such as the One Act Play and Knowledge Bowl made plans to resume In-person practices.

Picture Retake Day was held in the library at Buffalo High School, which was the first time some Distance Learning students stepped in the school building.

NOVEMBER 16

Minnesota enacted a four-week-pause on youth sports causing winter sports to put their long-awaited seasons on hold.

FEBRUARY 9

Tragedy struck Buffalo when an active shooter attacked the Allina Clinic. Tatanka Elementary was evacuated to BHS while most students were Distance Learning.

JANUARY 4

Juniors and Seniors created a mini-student section at a Boys Basketball game for the first time since March 2020.

In an effort to stay connected during Distance learning, the yearbook hosted a virtual Worknight to connect & continue building the yearbook.

NOVEMBER 20

Upholding a cherished tradition, the class of 2021 gathered in the BAC to take their long-awaited senior class picture.

FEBRUARY 17

MARCH 1

Freshmen returned to school for In-person learning everyday while other grades continued their schoolwork from home.

FEBRUARY 26

After months of serving food solely through the drive through and take out, Buffalo Culvers reopened it's dining room to guests.

The High School opened it's doors to students in all grades. Some students chose to return In-person, while others chose to stay distance learning.

MARCH 5

Governor Tim Walz made the announcement that schools could plan for In-person proms and graduation ceremonies.

MARCH 19

MARCH 13

A positive case of COVID-19 forced the Boy's Basketball team to quarantine and forfeit the last games of their season.

MARCH 14

For the first time since December 2019, Freshman band students performed in concert after only one full group, In-person rehearsal.

Gretta Heinecke '21, Sterling Yates '21, and Amelia Anderson '22 placed in the State Tournament for BPA, advancing to Nationals.

MARCH 11

After a long wait, many teachers receive their second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine in an effort to keep the school community safe.

MARCH 20

MARCH 30

Placing 1st and 2nd at their Section Meet, Knowledge Bowl sent two teams to State for the first time since 2012.

MARCH 22

Students leave for Spring Break on short notice when third quarter classes wrap up two days earlier than planned.

APRIL 1

SQU ARE TANK ONE

TWENTY

APRIL 10

After the fatal shooting of Daunte Wright, students across the state of Minnesota organized walkouts.

APRIL 22

Governor Tim Walz announced that spring sports would no longer be required to wear masks while actively playing or practicing.

Boys Tennis opens the spring sports season. After last year's spring sport cancellations, this was the first spring sports event since 2019.

APRIL 19

The Spring Musical, *Tapestry of Hope: Our Gift to the Community* opened with spectators able to watch live in the theater.

APRIL 22

MAY 6

The first ever Homecoming Lacrosse Game was held. The senior class was invited to come watch.

MAY 1

The CDC announced revised guidelines for wearing masks for people who are fully vaccinated.

A vaccination clinic was held at the high school for any students 16 and older who wanted to get vaccinated.

MAY 6

Although traditional Prom could not happen, Grand March took place in the main gym without the traditional dance to follow.

APRIL 27

MAY 7

In a virtual Academic Excellence ceremony students were recognized for their efforts throughout a tough year.

JUNE 6

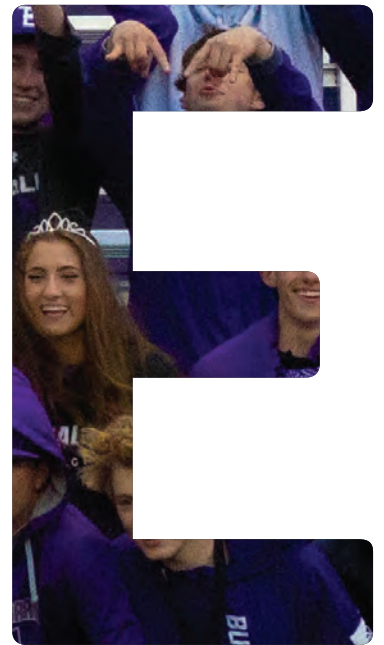
For the first time in BHS history Seniors took part in a graduation ceremony on the football field.

After a week of dress-up days, Homecoming week came to a close with Class Color Day.

MAY 17

Although they could not all be together, NHS members participated in a virtual induction ceremony.

JUNE 11



Return of the Student Section
After a year of restricted attendance, students gather at Bison Field West to watch a Bison team play at the first ever Homecoming Lacrosse game. Photo by Matthew Scherber