



The Difference Between This Year and Last Year



Emilee Montiel
—Section Editor—

This year has undoubtedly been absolutely crazy because of the obvious: the Coronavirus pandemic that has affected the entire world.

However, this year with a lot of hard work from the administrators, teachers, and staff here at Alamosa High School, we have been able to adapt well according to the regulations and requirements needed regarding the pandemic.

This year, students were unable to switch classes and start off the year how we all normally would. We had to stay in the same rooms with the same other students, and the teachers were to come in and teach us for the different periods throughout the day.

While this seemed like it was going to be a terrible year because it wasn't going to be "normal," we have been able to adapt well. The cohorts that we were put in made a way for the students and staff to be able to prevent sickness as best as possible so when somebody did get sick, we were able to con-

tact trace back to the source, and make sure everybody who had contact would not come to school for a period of time as the sickness was overcome.

In hindsight, this was the best way to be able to make sure that everybody could stay as safe as possible, and give us the classes we still needed for the year. For us Seniors, these classes are the last ones that we need to be able to graduate.

At first, we were all pretty bummed that we were not able to have a Homecoming dance, and in some cases, we could not even go to the football games. However, with some hard work from the teachers and staff here at AHS, we still had a royalty court and some fun activities that the whole school could become involved in.

Because of this, the high school still had a good time that would be remembered. Personally, I am so thankful for these little activities, because without them, I would have thought that I didn't get anything for my Senior year. I'm still really grateful to the staff and administration that has undoubtedly throughout the year been a big advocate not

only of the school as a whole, but especially for us Seniors.

Last year, the week before spring break was the last week of school for the year 2020. The class of 2020 missed out on a lot of opportunities, and they did not even get to finish their Senior year like classes before them had previously been able to.

However, I am extremely thankful for this year because while we still have to take precautions and follow all of the rules and guidelines, there is hope for our class as prom and graduation are coming up fast.

The Juniors and Seniors as well as the staff members of AHS have been working hard to be able to plan a prom that is both fun and follows all of the rules so the school does not get into trouble.

We are planning to have our prom outside this year under the stadium to keep the maximum attendance we can get. The plan for prom is to be on May 1st, 2021, Juniors and Seniors can go, and they are allowed to ask underclassmen if they choose to do so.

The only difference about this prom is that there will not be any outside dates

from other schools allowed. It is only students from the Alamosa School District.

Though this may disappoint some people, I still am super excited that we even get the chance to have a prom because the Seniors last year did not get as lucky. The same concept also goes for graduation this year. We are planning to have a somewhat normal graduation ceremony this spring as well, instead of the drive-through like the class of 2020 was able to have.

Though they were able to get a graduation in general, I still feel genuinely lucky that ours is going to be headed more towards the "normal" side of things. We are planning on having our graduation ceremony on the football field and in the stadium because there is enough room for people to be able to spread out, and the hope is that some of our family members are able to go as well.

There have been many meetings, phone calls, and decisions that have all had to go into trying to figure out a way to make the best of a not-so-normal Senior year for all of us Seniors. Lots of students and staff have been rooting for this

since all of the virus stuff started in March of last year. Through hard work and determination, we have been able to continue to have hope and make due with what we can get. Even this is better than what, as unfortunate as it is, the Seniors last year received because of how new the pandemic was to all of us.

I want to give a huge thank you to all the staff and students who have been working hard this year for the class of 2021, but also for the whole Alamosa School District to aim towards a more normal school life than the previous year. I feel extremely fortunate to be getting both a prom and a graduation, especially when the Seniors last year did not get it.

This year, we have all learned so much about how to handle the virus better, and I am very grateful that the administration and other staff members have fought to be our advocates for such a long time this year.

No matter what has been thrown at these people, they have found ways to be able to go through with high hopes, still. And are very lucky to just have this experience.

The Circumstances of Prom While in COVID Season



Selena Villalva
—Staff Writer—

Despite some extreme doubts, with the approval of the Public Health Department, Alamosa High School was given the approval to have a prom. As a member of the student council, the junior class felt a lot of pressure to put on a good prom for the seniors.

Due to COVID health regulations, we were unable to fundraise throughout the year to raise money for the prom. This brought some stress to the juniors of obtaining the needed resources to put on a prom.

With the help of the senior class, who were generous enough to donate money that they had saved from the previous year to our junior class due to not being able to fundraise as much as previous classes. Without their help the prom would not be able to hire a DJ along with making the venue as visioned.

With regulations set in place we are limited to only allowing approximately 200 people to the prom and it has to be outdoors, what also has to be considered is the num-

bers of cases which could change, which would also change the amount of people allowed at the dance. Along with that, only those from Alamosa school district will be able to attend the dance.

The regulations set in place are most likely going to bring some frustration. Personally I think the number limit will not be too much of an issue considering in recent years there have only been around 200 people who attend.

Compared to previous years, Alamosa students have been allowed to ask others from different schools however, this year they will not be allowed to, this will bring the most frustration.

Although it is going to be different, I think that Prom is still going to be enjoyable. Without having a homecoming this year or a prom last year, many are anticipating attending the prom including myself.

The masks are going to be a nuisance to have to wear throughout the night, but to be able to attend a school event, especially the prom which is looked forward to

throughout the year, will be better than not having a prom.

The envisioned theme is the early 1920's. This was suggested by the senior class, which we did not personally consider this theme until hearing out what they meant by this decade. With some discussion, the wanted scene was similar to the Great Gatsby lifestyle. Meaning very glamorous and lavish.

With wanting this theme

to be brought to life along with a limited budget, those involved on the prom committee found ways to make whatever decorations possible to save money where we could.

After interviewing some seniors about their anticipation for the prom along with how they were feeling about being able to attend their prom many had similar answers.

Many are excited and grateful to be able to attend at

least one prom. There is a lot that has been missed out on when coming to the senior experience due to the unforeseen circumstances, but having a prom has a promising feeling.

Being able to live out what is supposed to be a promised event, brings hope and excitement for students at Alamosa High School. With medical developments and advancements currently happening, it gives students



Image labeled for reuse

The Roaring Twenties—Alamosa needed to incorporate a theme that would work with the location of the dance. With having to follow COVID regulations and having the dance outside, the theme was inspired by help of the seniors and make the best of circumstances.