

# The Start of the End For AHS Seniors



Hayden Shawcroft  
—Co-Head Editor—

As the school season comes around, every senior has one of two feelings. Those feelings are usually either I wanna get the heck out of high school or I can't believe we are already seniors.

Whether the feeling is eager to leave or sad to go, everyone is excited to be back for their senior year. Senior year has always been said to be the best year of high school. Now that we are back to normal, the seniors are going to make that statement true.

With full seasons of sports, no masks, and no cohorts, everyone feels closer than they have in a long time. With mixed classes, packed hallways, and the freedom to see whoever you want, Alamosa High is pretty stoked to be back to normal.

Of course Covid is still around so there are still some restrictions in place, but everyone is glad to be at the point we are. With the school vaccination

rate rising and Covid rates falling each week, AHS is getting closer and closer to being how it was in 2019 when everyone was close and Covid was not even a thought.

On September 1st, the seniors met at the football stadium for the annual senior sunrise. This was meant to kick off the school year in a special way for the senior class.

They ate breakfast burritos, donuts, and drank hot chocolate as they sat on the turf and watched the sunrise on what would be their last year together. As sad as this sounds, everyone was pleased to kick off the school year in such a special way.

When asking senior Dante Gonzales on how he feels about senior year approaching, he responded with "I feel good about the year as a whole, academically and in athletics, I think it will go by faster than the previous years have."

With football kicking off with a normal season, volleyball playing with full capacity, soccer bringing fans to the stands,

and softball having people at the field, the community is stoked to be able to watch Mean Moose athletics again.

Teachers are super excited to be back to normal as well. This school year teachers will be able to teach in the environment they want, their own classroom. With last year's cohort situation, the students would be stationary and the teachers had to move from class to class.

When asking well known Math teacher Ben Goldsworthy how he feels about being back to normal, he stated "It's fantastic! I am so glad I am able to hang all my posters and teach on my own nice big white board! I love not having to wheel my cart around from class to class. I just like being back to normal again."

This just makes the potential for a great year that much better. Hopefully the year is as

good as people are hoping as the seniors are anxious to have a good final year in Alamosa.

Senior Student Body President Raygen Abeyta says, "So far the first few weeks have been fun but the stress is setting in having to apply to different colleges, apply for scholarships, and find classes and what not."

The grades, college applications, scholarships, this is what senior year is all about.



Photo by: Erik Melgoza

**SENIOR SUNRISE**—The class of 2022 gathered at the stadium to eat donuts and drink coffee in honor of their last year at Alamosa High School.

### Upcoming Events

**Football**  
Fri. October 1 @Home  
Fri. October 8 @Home

**Volleyball**  
Sat. October 2 @Pagosa Springs  
Tues. October 5 @Centauri

**Boys Soccer**  
Fri. October 1 @Pagosa Springs

## AHS Features New Watertower



Evan Sowards  
—Co-Head Editor—

In the past ten years or so Alamosa School district has made major leaps and bounds towards creating a very clean and friendly environment for students and the surrounding community. About eleven years ago Alamosa school district received funding for a new elementary school that includes Kindergarten through the Fifth grade.

Around eight years ago Alamosa got a new High School football stadium as well as a running track for home football games and hosted track meets. This stadium and track is also open to the public for their use as well. More recently changes to the Alamosa community was to the water tower located just north-east of Alamosa High School.

For years Alamosa High School students have looked towards the blue and white stripped water tower to find their way to the high school but

that is no longer.

At the beginning it was painted with the stripe pattern to resemble a hot air balloon. Painted like a air balloon was supposed to symbolize the peace and freedom the San Luis Valley brings to many who come through and reside. To many it didn't go well with the school, surrounding community and the new athletic facilities next to it. In the fall of 2020 that nasty pattern blue and white stripe pattern was changed for good.

Appearance is very important in the world today. First impressions are mainly based upon what you see so if you were to visit. In the past couple of years citizens of Alamosa knew there had to be some change coming to the everyday views people saw of our beautiful towns sights and that's where it all began.

For a couple months the water tower had a giant curtain over it obstructing the view that the city of Alamosa had of it. Little did we know that there was big plans during those months for the water tower. At

first people really had no idea what was happening to the water tower. Just one day the water tower was covered up by this giant curtain. It wasn't until the curtain was dropped that we saw the colors and old paint had been scrapped off the old tower.

The new color that was applied was a bright white. But being painted straight white isn't all. Along with being painted white the water had a logo painted on it. This logo was none other than the Alamosa Mean Moose.

Since the water tower is just across the street from the high school the Mean Moose logo faces west towards the football field to give everyone a nice clear view of it as they sit and enjoy the home sporting events.

Now none of this would have been possible without money. In order to get the funding to fulfill this task a couple of senior classes donated their fund raising money from the multiple events they hosted throughout their high school years, towards the painting of the water tower. These classes were the graduat-

ing class of 2020 and the graduating class or 2021.

Without the money put up by the graduating classes of 2020 and 2021 this accomplishment would not have been possible for possibly another five years. With the help from those students choosing to give their class money to the water tower Alamosa is able to look much more presentable and welcoming with the new art.

Even students around the school find that the water tower has a tremendous boost to the town. In an interview with sophomore Brant Jackson, Jackson was asked what he thought of the new art work on the water tower. He replied with saying, "I think it is really cool. The moose looks really good and was a good addition to the high school."

With the world racing towards technological excellence it's nice to see a small town like Alamosa slow down and focus on the community. With these new additions all around the community and Alamosa High School we hope that it continues to impact the future generations.