



Friday, December 11, 2020

The Tribe

# TRIBUNE



Since the Coronavirus hit in March, Cherokee High School has been trying to adapt and find new ways to make a safe, virus-free learning environment for all students. One of these adaptations came in the form of e-learning.

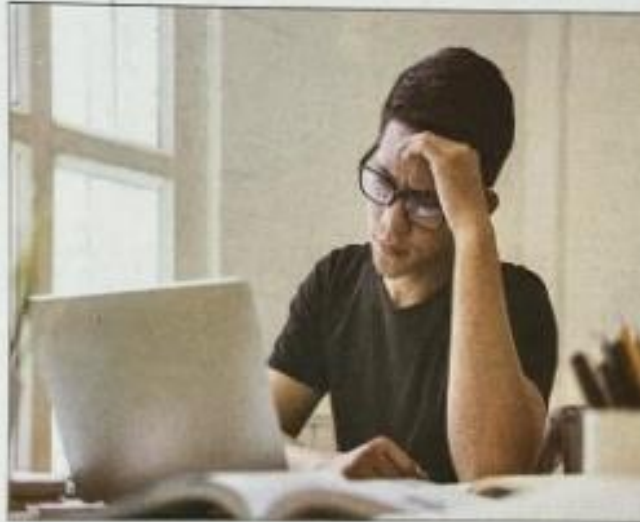
# How e-learning is affecting Cherokee High School

BY ZOEY SEAY

The 2019-2020 school year was going smoothly until the Coronavirus hit Rogersville in March. Since then, Cherokee High School has been trying to adapt and find new ways to make a safe, virus-free learning environment for all students. One of these adaptations came in the form of e-learning.

E-learning is a different experience for everyone. When asked what impact the virus has had on her education, Lydia Alvis, senior, responded "It has made it more difficult to learn... sometimes you have to teach yourself and it isn't as easy to ask questions through e-learning." Many of her fellow students seem to share the opinion that e-learning was challenging to adapt to. Kara Chapman, freshman, expressed that "[E-learning] was hard at first because we did not know what to expect, but once I got adjusted to it, [e-learning] was fine."

The social aspect of school has changed dramatically. For example, Jasmine



Smith, senior, said, "I miss Robotics Club, it is my senior year and I didn't get to be a part of it again." Similarly, Holly Miller, junior, stated that "after school culinary

projects were some of my favorite things to do... it was really fun to stay after school and work on our piece." Luckily, many students still communicate with each other outside of school, so many are still experiencing the social aspect of high school.

This new way of teaching has also been challenging for the teachers. Mr. Cody Helms expressed that he "misses interacting with the kids face-to-face" and that he "has to juggle lots of things, like having digital and physical copies of student's work." Another teacher, Mrs. Julie Kooienga stated that she "felt like I was talking to myself, especially when students would not turn their videos on during zoom meetings." Teachers are trying their best to make sure students are getting the same education that they would with traditional learning.

Although this troubling time has impacted everyone, the students and teachers alike are working together to make this positive. No matter what happens in the future, Cherokee High School will be ready.

## Meet the Tribe Tribune staff



CHS English teacher and Tribe Tribune sponsor Amy Keesler



Carson Rice



Ethan Lawson



Molly Nichols



Zoey Seay



Destiny Jarrigan



Crystal Hill



Hannah Tate



Neeley Greene

Not pictured:  
Shelby Cuthrell,  
Haylee Sexton,  
Alexis Dean





PHOTO BY MOLLY NICHOLS

## Heritage Lites Youth Leadership looks to help community

BY MOLLY NICHOLS

Heritage Lites Youth Leadership is an organization of bright, young students who are focused on the betterment of the Rogersville community. The organization is focused on teaching students leadership skills and allowing them to be active through community service.

Throughout the year, Heritage Lites assist in several community events such as Heritage Days, Breakfast with Santa, Tour of Homes, and Trunk or Treat. Lites are

required to complete 100 hours of community service by the end of their senior year, averaging about 25 hours per school year. Four of these community service hours have to be performed on the student's own time, outside of the organization, such as volunteering at the library or at animal shelters. Heritage Lites have meetings at Hale Springs Inn once every two months to discuss upcoming events and sign up to work them.

Due to Covid-19, Heritage Lites have not been able to complete as many events as

usual, with events like Trunk or Treat being canceled for health and safety. However, Lites continue to stay active through other means such as donating to organizations such as Serve Our Soldiers and hanging banners on Main Street. Fortunately, Heritage Days was not canceled this year, and Heritage Lites was a big part of making this event continue smoothly by working at drink stands and helping set-up and clean-up.

"My favorite experience from Heritage Lites is giving back to our community

with our friends," says Ethan Lawson, the student president of Heritage Lites. "It is a good feeling to know you are making a difference in your community."

Heritage Lites Youth Leadership is open to any students who wish to participate and costs a fee of \$100 for new members and an annual \$40 fee for returning members. Applications are typically available around May in the Guidance Office. This organization is an effective way of gaining community service hours and teaches students to be leaders within their community.

### Freshman class update

## Freshmen taking school in stride, making it the best it can be

BY HAYLEE SEXTON

Freshman year is an influential year for students. It's the start of a new chapter. Coronavirus has changed many as-

pects of everyone's lives, including students at Cherokee. The freshmen at Cherokee have felt the repercussions. Ella McLain thinks, "It has taken away from the whole experience."

"We all depend upon each other as peers," says Makeena Heck, who believes a lot of people were confused about all the changes. Others, including Colby Barton, keep a more optimistic view, saying,

"Freshman year is going good so far." Thankfully, the students at Cherokee are adapting to all the changes well, and they are making the school year the best it can be.

## Sophomore Class Update

# Sophomores have mixed opinions on opening schools

### CRYSTAL HILL

With the Coronavirus affecting so many schools and places, opening schools has left people with different opinions on the matter.

Sophomores at Cherokee High School had a few positive words to say about the precautions the school is taking to be sure all of their student's feel safe about safe coming to school every day,

because I know the school is doing all they can to keep us healthy and learning," Ethan Gates, Sophomore class president. If a student was to not feel safe coming they have the option of being an e-learner.

Amy Henry said, "I enjoy e-learning and I prefer it to regular school."

However, that is not the case for all students.

"If I could go back, I probably wouldn't have done e-learning in the beginning of

the year. I wasn't motivated and procrastinated my work, which caused me to get behind on many assignments," Olivia Spence.

Putting the virus aside, Sophomores have many different opinions about the school year.

One of the adjustments is leaving the freshman academy behind, and merging into the rest of the school. For Alyssa Bryant, merging into the upperclassmen proved to be easier than she thought. "The

first day I was lost and confused, but after a couple days it was pretty easy to find my classes and get around. It's not that different from the freshman academy, except there's a lot more people."

Tanner Curtice also felt like the first few days were challenging, but he got used to it. He, however, misses the Freshman academy at times, but he is glad he no longer feels excluded from the rest of the school.

## Junior Class Update

# Class of 2022 wonders what is to come after COVID-19

### EILEY GREENE

Junior year is filled with all kinds of experiences.

From taking the ACT to attending homecoming, there are many exciting dates for the year. However, with COVID-19 joining the mix, junior year has looked different than last and upcoming year.

For the class of 2021 juniors missed out on many activities. The 2019-2020 school year ended abruptly last March due to the effects of the Coronavirus. Cherokee High School closed March 13, leaving many wondering what was to come.

For the juniors, they missed the ACT with the school being closed. Courtney LeRoy, now senior, spoke more on how the closing affected her junior year. "The end of junior year was kind of difficult because I had to adjust to online learning very quickly. It was also sad because we missed out on some of the end of the year activities." A lot of the events that take place at the end of the semester were canceled. With the uncertainty of the virus, prom was postponed. For the juniors, it was the first year to attend prom. Though it looked different this year, prom was able to happen. It created some normal-

cy for the students, despite the upcoming year.

For the class of 2022, not only junior year, but school completely, looks different. Cherokee has been mostly in person with the option of online learning.

For junior, Rachel McCracken, school this year has been a different experience. "This year has definitely been crazy. I think if we didn't miss the beginning of this year, school may have been easier to learn," she said.

With Rachel being an e-learner, her day looks different than the in-person learners. "With me being an e-learner, school has

changed a lot for me, but I like it. I don't have to be at school, but I still have to be up early for my school day." With the uncertainty of how the rest of the school year will look like, many have hopes of returning back to normal. Rachel said, "I hope next semester will be more enjoyable for everyone. I hope COVID-19 will go down, and we don't have to worry about the little things."

Junior year is supposed to be filled with all sorts of exciting things. Though COVID-19 has joined the picture, students are trying to make the most with what they are given.

## Senior Class Update

# 2021 Seniors, making the best out of the cards they were dealt

### MON RICE

Senior year of 2020, just as everything was about to start, was shut down as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic, everyone began to wonder what the lockdown would mean for seniors: no prom and no graduation, at least not on the scale that seniors are used to. The community is hoping these soon to be high school seniors banded together to do everything they could in order to salvage the last

part of their senior year. Senior banners were hung and seniors were "adopted" by members of the community in an attempt to better the final months of their senior year. The final two months of the class of 2020's senior year was saved due to community contribution and ingenuity. With all the focus and the class of 2020, an equally important senior year is in jeopardy.

There was a hope that Coronavirus cases would drop during the summer months and then by the time back to school rolled

around everything would be fine and normal schooling would resume. But the closer August came, the less likely that notion was. Colleges and universities were the first institutions to announce that the 2020-2021 school year would begin online. This verdict began to trickle down to high schools, middle schools, and elementary schools. Soon, all places of education were in the same boat, starting a completely new school year online. This was a difficult time for all those involved in the education

process: teachers, administrators, students, and parents.

In spite of all the things working against the 2020-2021 seniors, the senior class has really made the best of this school year. They have managed to apply to colleges and get accepted. Help their sports teams win their games, participate in clubs and afterschool programs. The seniors are taking advantage of the time they have been given this year and are making the best of it in case that time is taken away from them.



## SPORTS



Cherokee fans cheer on the Chiefs football team.

PHOTO BY KEVIN STOFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# Chiefs vs. COVID-19

BY DESTINY JARNIGAN

The Coronavirus pandemic has left life in schools anything but ordinary, but one thing Cherokee fans have clung to is the hope that sports would be able to be played as usual during the 2020-2021 year. After the cancellation of baseball, softball, track and field, and boys soccer seasons last year, the future was, and still is, unforeseeable. Sadly, many hopeful 2020 seniors did not get to play their final season. Luckily, the Cherokee Chiefs were able to play fall sports, even if it was not necessarily business as usual.

Starting out the fall season, the Chiefs football team had to adjust to a last minute coaching change. The girls basketball coach, Jason Lawson, stepped in as an interim coach, and led the Chiefs through the season. Seniors, Tyler "Tater" Haun, Hayzen Hayes, Nathaniel Johnson, Trenton Lamb, and Trent Price all have had successful careers playing football for Cherokee. Seniors cheering on the chiefs were Courtney Leroy, Aubrey Sheerer, and Hannah Tate. In other sports, the soccer team had a successful season with two Lady Chiefs being selected for all-conference honors. The Chiefs' only senior, Haley Livesay, and junior Orianna Williams

fought hard all season to receive the awards. The cross country and volleyball teams also had two players selected as all conference. Henry Brooks, who also qualified for the state tournament, and Landry Russell were selected for cross country, and Cassie Cooper and Kendyl Fields were selected for volleyball. The golf team will graduate two seniors this year, Morgan Lawson and Natalie Mueller. Although there were unfortunate restrictions, all of the fall sports were allowed to resume play.

Now, on the cusp of basketball and bowling seasons the Chiefs are practicing to win. Basketball has just begun playing non-conference games, with a full schedule of Big 7 conference teams ahead. Both the boys and girls teams hope to have successful seasons with their veteran teams. The bowling team never disappoints with their many state appearances, and has just begun in the previous weeks. The joint swim team with Volunteer High School typically begins in October, but the season has been pushed back due to Covid. Sporting events will be different, especially while entering the cold and flu season, with restricted fan access and temperature checks.

No matter what happens with sports and Coronavirus, go Chiefs!



All-State Runner Henry Brooks.



All conference volleyball players Kendyl Fields and Cassie Cooper.



Cherokee High School cheerleading team.

# Exam time at CHS

BY ZOIEY SEAY

Normally, Cherokee High School students are able to skip exams if they have perfect attendance and are passing the class. However, because of the Coronavirus, all students are required to take exams. Many people are, understandably, upset about this.

One of the reasons that exams are required this year is because there is currently no absent policy in place. Teachers would have trouble taking attendance with both e-learners and in-school students, so the board decided that attendance will not be tracked. Although this may seem exciting to many students, it has contributed to the now required exams.

Jonathan Williams, junior, expressed "At the end of the day, exams are just another test we have to take. The part that makes me upset is that they are worth more of our grade." Williams was referencing the fact that exams are worth 20% of our grade instead of 10%. He also explained that "the school could and should have done a more precise way of taking attendance... there would have been less of a problem when it comes to exams."

Everyone is still adjusting to the situation we are currently in, so no one can blame the school for trying to do the best they can.

# Cherokee High Club Highlights

BY TRIBE TRIBUNE STAFF

## Beta Club:

The Beta Club has invited new members and chosen 3 leaders this year! Congrats to Emily Travis, Courtney LeRoy and Gracie Winnegar for submitting excellent project ideas and being selected based on those. The members are helping this semester with the People Loving People Thanksgiving dinner, wrapping gifts for Christmas for the Children. Several members are using their hard earned money to adopt a child in need and sharing the Christmas Spirit. The club is also sending cards to the Veterans to spread holiday cheer.

## Yearbook:

Did you miss ordering the yearbook?? Have no fear! There are still opportunities for you to purchase! Online purchasing is available! Go to [yearbookordercenter.com](http://yearbookordercenter.com) and enter the code 13977. You can still even get a name plate! The other option is to visit Ms. Ferraro in room 107 and bring \$20 (cash or check). There is a payment plan available with 3 additional \$20 payments due at a later date.

## FCCLA:

Exciting news! Neeley Greene, the president of our club at Cherokee has been elected as a state officer and will be representing us as such! What an honor! FCCLA is in full swing and meeting twice monthly. They have been selling lovely soy candles as their fundraiser this fall.

# Thank you, sponsors!

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# Music in COVID time

BY SHELBY CUTHRELL

COVID-19 and the quarantining that goes along with it has had a drastic effect on the music programs at Cherokee High. Covid-19 has canceled many exciting and fun things that these organizations would have gotten to do.

Last year Covid-19 was the cause of the band not being able to have a spring concert or go to their annual concert festival. Chorale was not able to go to the JB Lyle festival that they had been training for and it ended once school let out due to Covid-19. This year for chorale they have not even been able to have tryouts yet, due to social distancing and quarantine rules.

This year the Cherokee Marching Chiefs have faced many hardships due to Covid and all of its contributing factors. They did not get to have band camp in the summer to learn the drill section of their halftime show. Since they did not get to have band camp and due to social distancing guidelines, they did not get to have a halftime show with a drill, or the marching on the football field, part this year. Through all of this struggle, they still managed to play a halftime show with just music and played different songs as the football season progressed. They also could not sit in the stands, go to their regular marching competitions, or get to go to all of the football games, only the home ones. One of the things that was most upsetting to senior Kaitlyn Luster was, the band will not be able to go on the trip that they would have been taking this spring.

Senior Gracie Winegar said that the chorale had been planning for the music festival for months, and she was devastated when she found out that it had been canceled. Winegar also hopes to be able to try out soon again and enjoy what she can of her last year with the Cherokee Chorale. They are still having a class for the choir at Cherokee, but they are having to alter many things from their normal routine.

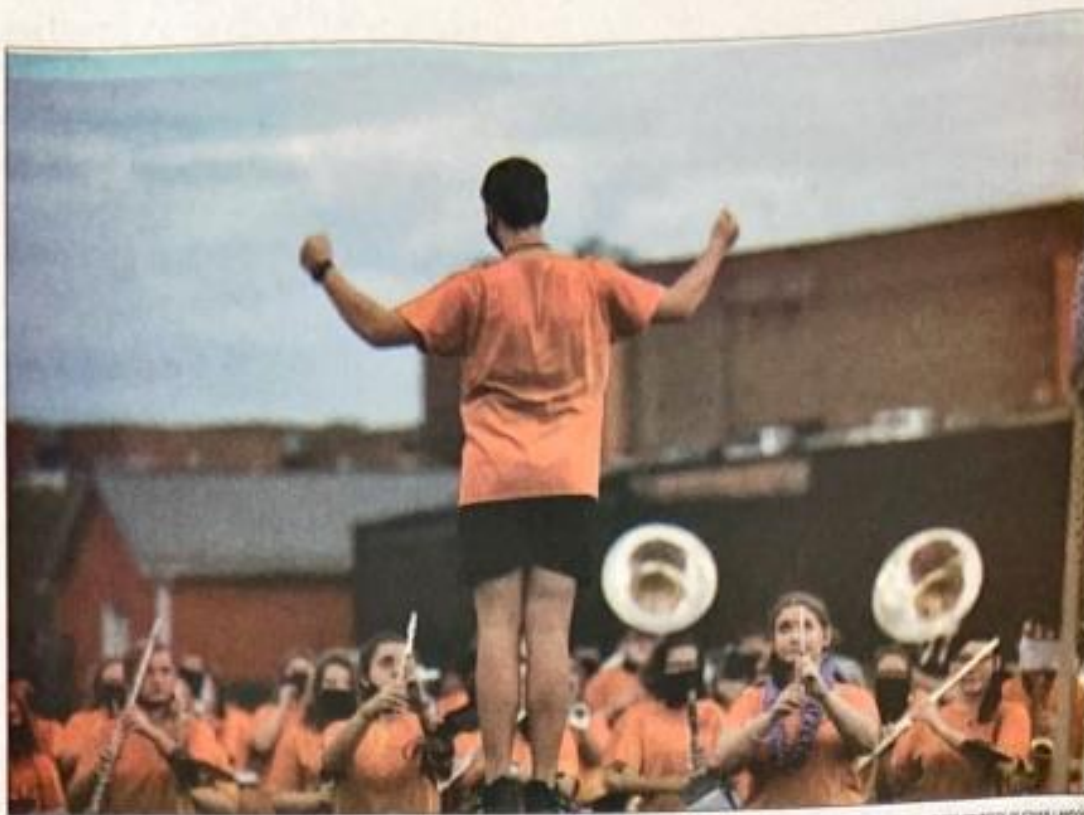


PHOTO COURTESY OF CHINA LANGRISH



BY ROSELVILLE REVIEW SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHERS

# Dancing on the Square

## Has Cherokee started a new tradition?

BY ETHAN LAWSON

This past July, Cooper Bolton collaborated with others to have the senior and junior class one last prom before the (then) seniors depart for college in the following months. Planning prom during the COVID-19 Pandemic is very hectic. However, these challenges "forced the prom committee to be creative," Bolton stated, and they did just that.

### A not-so-fortunate senior year

The class of 2020's senior year of high school started off like any other school year and continued on this path until the third week of March as Hawkins County started to shut down schools for the COVID-19 pandemic. This was not the senior year any of the them had dreamed of nor imagined would happen. The seniors official last day on campus at Cherokee High School was March 16th.

Prom was originally scheduled for April 3rd and this was cancelled shortly after the school system moved to virtual learning. Bolton stated, "I wasn't surprised" when first finding out, "but I knew we had to do something more creative in attempt to create normalcy out of chaos."

### Deciding Downtown

Cherokee High did not host a prom this year, but Bolton, along with some others, decided it was important to plan and have a prom to make the best of the final days of high school for him and his senior class.

There were major deci-

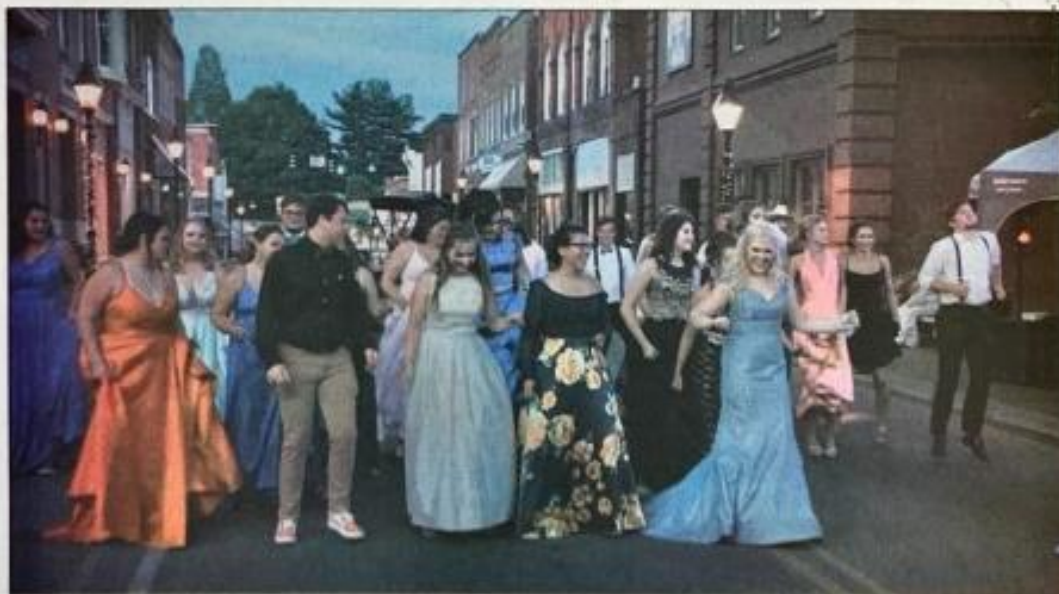


PHOTO BY ETHAN LAWSON

sions to be made regarding the location and liability of prom. "Holding prom Downtown was a solution we came up with that was safer, cheaper, and it turned out to be stunning," Bolton argued.

In fact, prom was very well put together and was very beautiful. There is something nostalgic about having prom in Downtown Rogersville, and it just makes you feel at home, simply because you are.

### A new tradition on the cusp for Cherokee

The current school year is still being affected heavily

by the COVID-19 pandemic, and there has already been concerns regarding prom for this school year.

Mr. David Kenner, Principal at Cherokee High School, presented the Junior and Senior class student council members with three options for prom for which he listed the pros and cons of each.

The first option was to continue with the old tradition of having prom at Meadowview in Kingsport. One pro of this option is not being weather-dependent; rain or shine, the prom will still be able to happen at

Meadowview. One con of this option is the distance which will make prom less accessible for students. Another downfall to this option is it being the most expensive option.

The second option was to have prom Downtown like last year. This option has several pros which include being more accessible to students (distance and price wise) and keeping money in our hometown. The major con to this option is it only being weather permitting, meaning there has to be an indoor back-up plan in place. Another con

is staffing every entrance and exit of Downtown.

The third option is to have prom in the commons area at Cherokee High School. This is the overall cheapest option; however, many students do not want their prom to be at school.

The most prominent option at the moment is to have prom Downtown. Though there are many things to take into consideration, a Downtown prom will keep money in our hometown, make it more accessible, and have a lower cost than it normally would.

The most prominent

option is to have prom Downtown. Carson Rice, Senior Student Council Member, created a Google Form with a poll for the student body to see where they think prom should be held. Downtown won with 60.3% of the total votes casted.

Kenner met with student council members once more, and it was decided that prom will be held Downtown again. Taking weather into consideration, they will prepare a back-up plan if the weather does not look promising for the selected date.