

# PINE-RICHLAND RAMPAGE

## The Second First Year of High School

*Former Freshmen  
Share their  
Sophomore  
Experiences*

**NICOLAI EZOLT  
STAFF WRITER**

It's a new year of school for all of us and we all have to get used to getting back into the swing of things.

However, for a few freshmen who learned virtually last year, this sophomore year will be a little different. Last year during the pandemic, a small group of students were fully virtual from the start and were never physically in the building for learning.

Sophomore Avyu Nagrath said he formed better bonds with teachers during his first week of school compared to last school year.

Sophomore Connor Foote shares a similar reaction to his second/first year of high school.

After not being able to talk to kids in person for over a year, Foote said he values every interaction he can have with

his peers, and that has helped him connect with his classmates on a deeper level.

### PICTURE OF THE WEEK: KATE CHRYSTAL



The RAMPAGE STAFF wants your first week of school photos. Email them to Newspaper Advisor Mrs. Harshman. Students, staff, and Rampage Fans are invited to send in pictures each week. This photo of sophomore Kate Chrystal was taken by sophomore Ava Spacciapolli. Thanks, Ava!



*Between the Bell. Students make their way through the halls during the 4 minute class change.  
Photo by sophomore Chloe Fazio.*

## Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank Donations Needed

PR Students and staff are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to support the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Drive. Drop off donations at the high school or at the donation table at the Homecoming football game on

Friday September 17: diapers, laundry detergent, paper products, pasta, peanut butter, dried/canned beans, pouched/canned tuna, rice, instant mashed potatoes.

# REFLECTION

*A Junior Provides an Inside Look at His First Week Back*

## **Snap Back to Reality: From Fully Virtual to In Person**

**CALEB HIRSCH STAFF WRITER**

Everyone has had some adjusting to do this past week. Whether that be waking up early once again, leaving the house for the first time in a while, or missing the deadline for the first few assignments, getting back into the groove of daily school life takes an adjustment period.

However, I believe that this change has been most extreme for those who were in the fully virtual model last school year.

I would like to provide the perspective of coming back to school from someone who has not been to school in a year and a half, and how this long hiatus impacted my first week.

The first thing I noticed coming back was the people. People I knew my freshman year are different in a lot of ways, making it difficult to make connections with those people once again. That being said, I've also changed, and it has been a huge adjustment getting to know the people I once knew all over again.

Former virtual student junior Will Lewis said, "I feel like a completely different person than I was a couple years ago."

Another thing to adjust to is the responsibility. I admittedly wasn't the best virtual student, and was used to doing other, more interesting things during my classes without facing any consequences. Now that those days are

over, I need to get used to the basic responsibilities that I learned way back in elementary school. It might take some time before I'm paying attention and taking notes once again.

The final point I want to touch on is how being in person has changed my schedule. I'm waking up an hour earlier because I now need to accommodate for getting to the bus on time. While I was in virtual school, I could get away with shorts, t-shirt, and robe every day. I no longer have that luxury, so I need to make sure that I'm looking decent enough to go out. I'm also getting home later, giving me less time to do homework and relax afterwards. This ties back into learning my responsibilities, since I now have less time to finish my work. This is a problem I had even before the pandemic, making me worry about this adjustment the most.

Hopefully I've painted a good picture of how it feels coming back to school from being fully virtual. Everyone is adjusting in some way, and I don't mean to undermine the trouble others are having with my own experiences, and instead I want to give a different perspective on my first week. After all, no matter who you are, the first week of school is jarring, and all of us have some adjusting to do.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

*Prepare for Homecoming and Spirit Week*

**LIZZI MONTANTI STAFF WRITER**

### **Spirit week (9/13-17th):**

Monday: Woke Up Late/Pajama Monday

Tuesday: Party in the USA Tuesday

Wednesday: Wild West Wednesday

Thursday: Jersey Thursday

Friday: PR Green and White

Homecoming game theme: Orange-Out

### **Homecoming dance (9/18):**

When: 7-10 PM, Saturday, September 18th.

Where: PRHS Stadium

\*NOTE: Doors close at 7:30PM\*

### **Tickets**

Cost: \$25 per person

### **Where to purchase:**

1. Before school in the PRHS lobby through Wednesday, 9/15
2. In the cafeteria or outside of Room 45 through Wednesday, 9/15

\*NOTE: Students need a signed permission slip to purchase tickets. Tickets are non-refundable.\*

### **Permission slips**

Visit the PRHS website or click the links below for permission slips.

[PR student here](#)

[here for guest](#)

### **Support PR Homecoming:**

1. Mini-bottled waters: PR is in need of mini-bottled waters to offer at the PR Homecoming Dance. Donations can be dropped off at the front office of the high school through Thursday, 9/16. Label all donations "Homecoming Dance"
2. Corn hole games: PR is in need of corn hole games for the PR Homecoming Dance. Drop off corn hole games at the high school front office during school hours from 9/13-17th, or bring the game directly to the stadium on Saturday, 9/18. Include a label containing your last name for return.

## **SAVE THE DATE:**

### **OPEN HOUSE AND ACTIVITY FAIR**

**TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 14**

**6:30-8:30 PM**

**PARENTS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND TO MEET  
TEACHERS AND STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO  
GATHER IN THE CAFETERIA TO LEARN  
ABOUT CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES.**