My name is Maya and I’m in the 10th grade at Richmond Community High School. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a huge impact on this school year. The news of a two weeks closure was bearable, but then it came to an abrupt end. We thought that we were going to go back to end out the amazing school year, until the governor decided to close school for the rest of the 2019-2020 school year. Emotions began to run high and feelings of sadness came over me. The school board decided to switch to virtually teaching classes.

The new classroom was ZOOM, it is the way to communicate with our teachers and classmates.

We went from joking about COVID-19 to becoming completely aware and serious about it. In just a few weeks it quickly became surreal and changed our everyday lives. Everytime I leave the house now, I have to wear a mask and be aware of social distancing. Being in the house is not all bad. I get to spend time with my family. My mom and I enjoy cooking in the kitchen together, we watch family movies, and we even make tiktoks.
COVID-19 pandemic has helped me enjoy things on my own and learn how not to take life for granted. It's taught me to stay informed about what's actually happening in the world instead of just listening to what people say. I miss my friends dearly but we still make time for each other by facetimeing or texting. Just sad how one day you're just living your life and next thing you know it changes and probably won't be the same for a long time.