

Transcript of Oral History Interview with Nath LeMonnier

Interviewer: Marci LeMonnier

Interviewee: Nate LeMonnier

Date: 10/5/2021

Location: Provo, Utah

Abstract: A mother asks her son questions about his experience living through the pandemic as a high schooler in relation to school, friends, physical and mental health.

Marci LeMonnier 00:01

So this is Marci LeMonnier and I am interviewing my son Nate LeMonnier. UM Nate, for the record, can you state your name and your age and that you give consent to being recorded?

Nate LeMonnier 00:13

I'm Nate LeMonnier. I'm 17 years old and I give consent to be recorded.

Marci LeMonnier 00:18

OK, so going back to March of 2020 you were in 10th grade. How did you feel when you were informed that the remainder of the semester would be online?

Nate LeMonnier 00:29

Excited mostly for just be able to hang out with my friends, which I assumed it was gonna be like summer, but it wasn't summer.

Marci LeMonnier 00:38

What was it like instead?

Nate LeMonnier 00:40

We had to stay at our house all day and we couldn't do anything. There wasn't any school but there wasn't any friends either.

Marci LeMonnier 00:47

How did you do school?

Nate LeMonnier 00:49

Online through canvas.

Marci LeMonnier 00:52

K. So what kind of adjustments did you have to make in your social life, your family life?

Nate LeMonnier 01:00

My social life. I didn't hang out with my friends anymore 'cause I couldn't and my family life, I hung out with my family way more because they're the only people I could hang out with.

Marci LeMonnier 01:11

OK, how did you feel about your classes being online? What was good and what was not so good?

Nate LeMonnier 01:17

I thought it was really easy and I learned a lot more than I did in school. Well, if not more the same amount, but it was definitely easier to do my homework and to do the lessons. Something that I didn't like was that I couldn't do my shop classes like welding cause it was all online.

Marci LeMonnier 01:34

Right. So how would you say that COVID affected your 10th and 11th grade years?

Nate LeMonnier 01:40

I would say that COVID made like 10th grade and my 11th grade years different. Definitely made my 10th grade easier and my 11th grade easier as well. For some of it.

Marci LeMonnier 01:56

What about the hardships that you experienced?

Nate LeMonnier 01:59

I will not be able to hang out with friends was definitely something that's hard for like a year, I couldn't talk to my friends outside of school and 11th grade was really easy in

most aspects 'cause I could just hang out with my friends like normal. But school was just easier.

Marci LeMonnier 02:15

And then what about the joys?

Nate LeMonnier 02:18

Well, definitely friends in 11th grade because school was much shorter and I had way more time to do everything and hang out friends which I really liked.

Marci LeMonnier 02:28

And how do you think you took care of your health? Both your mental and your physical during the pandemic.

Nate LeMonnier 02:34

I worked out a lot more in the pandemic then I do normally because they just had so much time. And my mental health never really took any damage. It stayed pretty well the whole time.

Marci LeMonnier 02:45

K was there a turning point in the pandemic for you?

Nate LeMonnier 02:50

Uh, no, not really. It always felt like it was normal and there's never really felt new or like it was unhandable.

Marci LeMonnier 03:00

What about the vaccine?

Nate LeMonnier 03:01

That was easy too.

Marci LeMonnier 03:02

Were you able to get the vaccine...

Nate LeMonnier 03:03

Yes

Marci LeMonnier 03:04

and how did you feel about it?

Nate LeMonnier 03:05

It was easy. And it didn't hurt me at all. And my arm felt fine. I didn't get sick.

Marci LeMonnier 03:11

OK, do you have anything else you want to add about the pandemic?

Nate LeMonnier 03:15

Not really.

Marci LeMonnier 03:17

K thanks.

Nate LeMonnier 03:18

Mmmhmmm.